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CAPTAIN

BATTLE

AND
THE

MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD!

THERE IS ONLY ONE **KONOOR DIAMOND**...THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD--WHOSE GUARDIAN IS A STRANGE, MYSTIC GIRL, **OLYRA**! THERE IS ONLY ONE THIEF WITH THE DARING AND SKILL TO STEAL THE DIAMOND---**THE MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD!** AND THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO CAN RECOVER IT---**CAPTAIN BATTLE!**

JOIN US NOW AS **CAPTAIN BATTLE** AND **HALE**, HIS BOY PARTNER, MEET ADVENTURE, MYSTERY AND THRILL-PACKED **ACTION** FROM ONE END OF THE EARTH TO THE OTHER--AS THEY DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO **OLYRA** IN THE QUEST TO RECOVER THE **KONOOR DIAMOND** AND TRACK DOWN THE WORLD'S MOST CUNNING BANDIT--**THE MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD!**

by
**Jack & Otto
BINDER**

The FABULOUS **KONOOR DIAMOND**--ALMOST PRICELESS IN VALUE, IS ON DISPLAY AT A MUSEUM TO THRONGING CROWDS!

MAGNIFICENT! HOW IT SPARKLES!

THEY SAY
IT'S WORTH
MILLIONS!



IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE UNITED STATES BY A STRANGE ORIENTAL GIRL WHOSE DAZZLING BEAUTY ALMOST OUTSHINES THE KONOOR!



AH!

UG!

I WON'T LEAVE THE DIAMOND OUT OF MY SIGHT FOR A MOMENT! IT'S TOO IMPORTANT TO ME AND MY PEOPLE--



AT NIGHT... AFTER THE CROWDS HAVE GONE...

GUARDS STAND WATCHFULLY-- OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM--

LISTEN! I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING!

NOW! IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION! WITH A DOZEN GUARDS AROUND, I'D LIKE TO SEE ANYONE STEAL THAT DIAMOND!



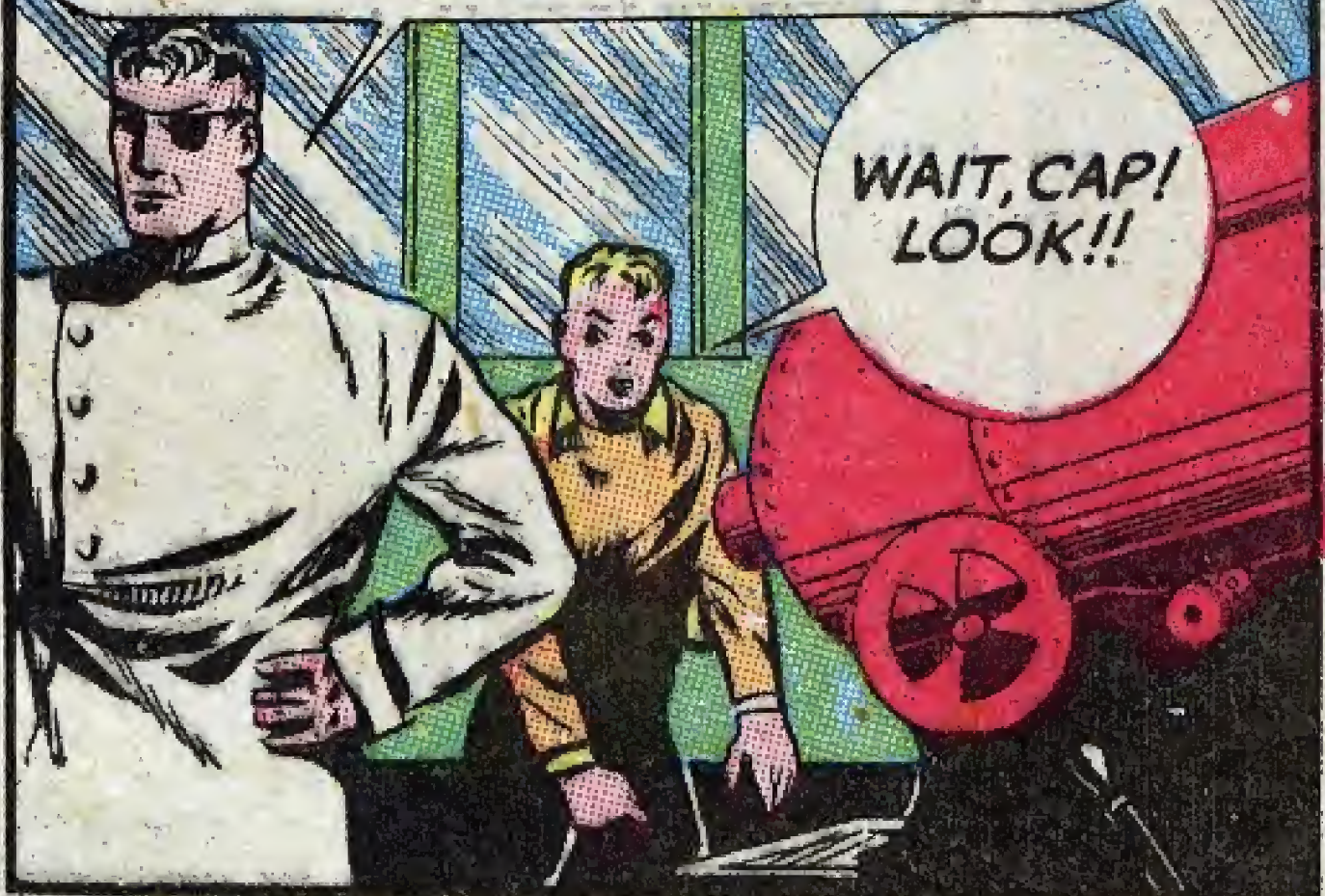
A SINISTER FIGURE HAS ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE!

FOOLS! DO THEY THINK THEY CAN KEEP ME OUT? ME, ALI HASSAN? HA! HA! HA! COME ON, MEN!



Meanwhile... AT HILLTOP LABORATORY-- TWO WELL-KNOWN FIGURES KEEP UNCEASING VIGIL AT THE CURVOSCOPE FOR NEFARIOUS DOINGS!

LOOKS LIKE A TEMPORARY LULL IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES, HALE!

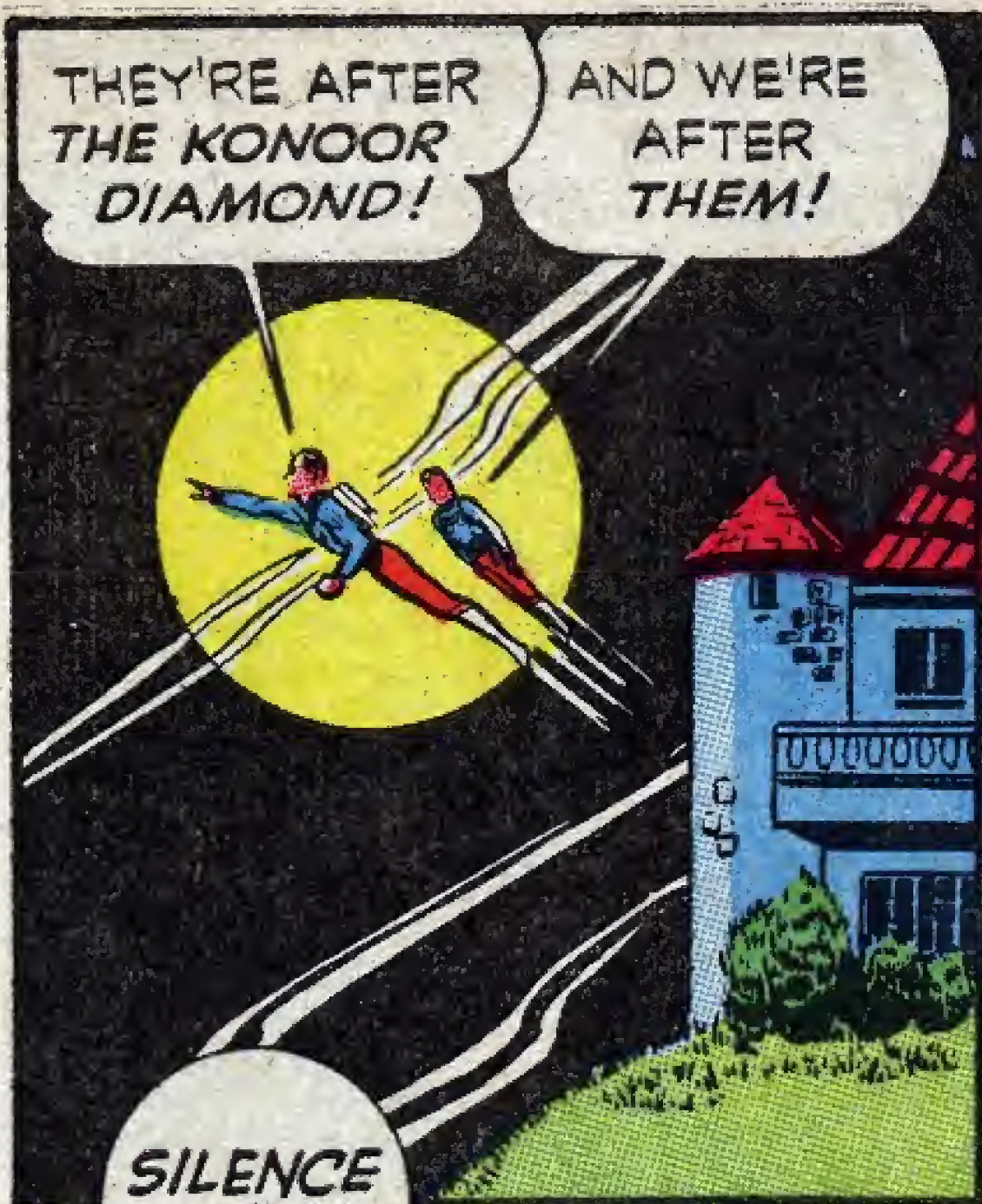


WAIT, CAP! LOOK!!

A GUARD BEING STRANGLERD!

AT THE MUSEUM!

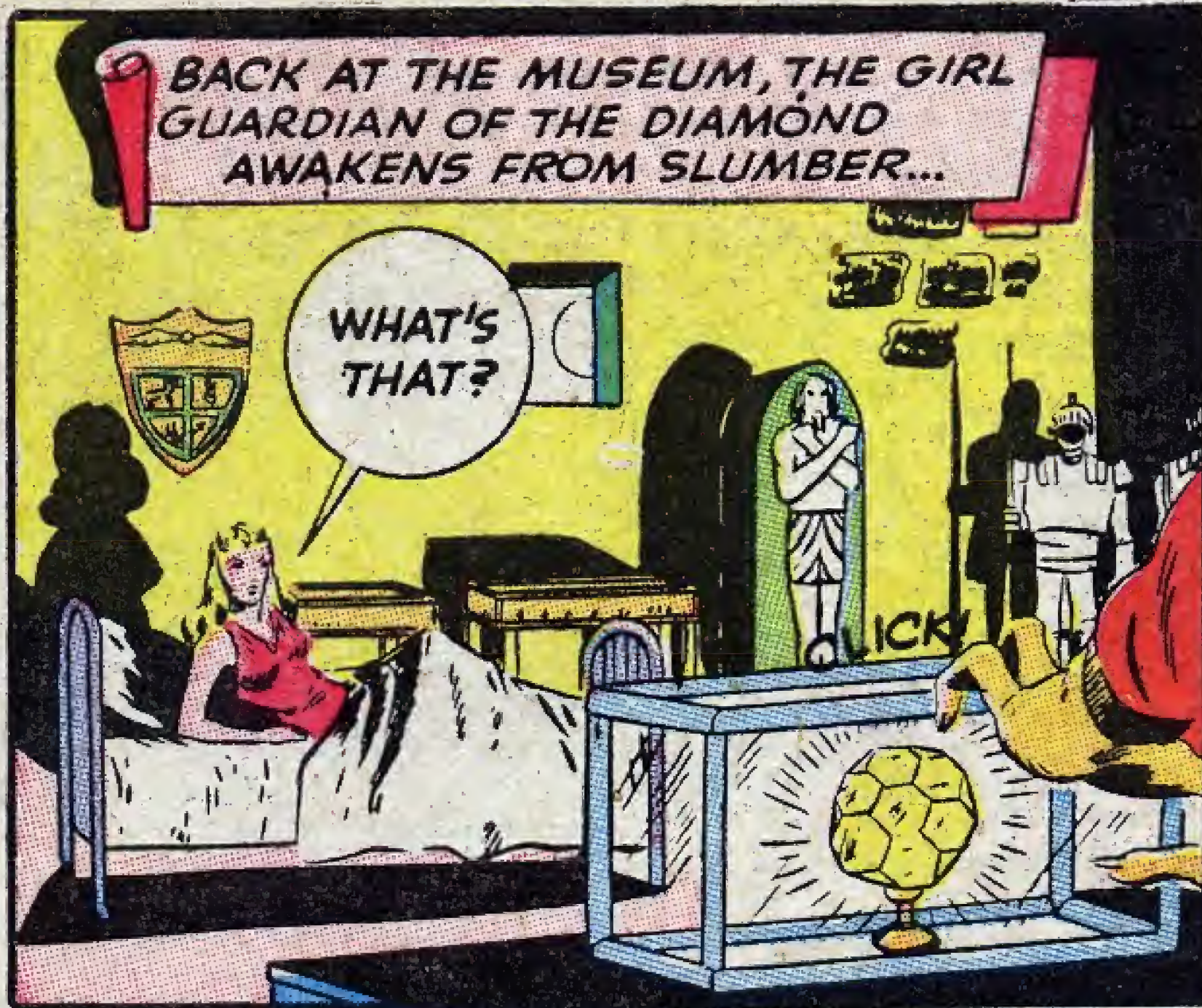




THEY'RE AFTER
THE KONOOR
DIAMOND!

AND WE'RE
AFTER
THEM!

SILENCE
HER!



BACK AT THE MUSEUM, THE GIRL
GUARDIAN OF THE DIAMOND
AWAKENS FROM SLUMBER...

WHAT'S
THAT?

LUCKY



HELLOO
...BLUB...



PUT BACK THAT
DIAMOND--IT'S
MINE!

NO SCREAMS--
OR YOU DIE!!



HA! YOU RECOGNIZE
ME, LOVELY ONE? I'LL
TAKE YOUR PRECIOUS
DIAMOND NOW! NO
ONE IS HERE TO STOP
ME! HA! HA! HA!

OHHH...IT'S
YOU--ALI
HASSAN!



ULK!

NO ONE?
YOU FORGET
CAPTAIN
BATTLE!

ROW!

SUDDENLY,
LIKE A HUMAN
ARROW...



SLIT
THEIR
THROATS!

HOLD ONTO THE
DIAMOND, HALE,
WHILE I---



AH!

--GIVE THESE
CUTTHROATS A
LITTLE LESSON!



YOU HOLD THIS,
LADY, WHILE I
JOIN THE FUN!



BUT THE WILY ALI HASSAN
COMES TO HIS FEET and...

THIS HEAVY
CURTAIN WILL
STOP THEM!

WHA...

HEY!

NO-- NO!
DON'T TAKE
THE KONDOOR...
OHHHHH!



THE TEXT
FOR TODAY
IS---

...CRIME
DOES NOT
PAY!

ALLAH
HELP
US!

TAKE
THAT FOR
STANDING IN
MY WAY!

WAK!

...AND SILENT FIGURES
STEAL OFF INTO THE
NIGHT!

THOUGHT
WE'D NEVER
GET OUT!

OHHH... MY DIAMOND
IS GONE! ALI HASSAN
LEFT ONLY THIS NOTE!
HOW CAN I EVER FACE
MY PEOPLE AGAIN--
OHHHHH!!

MINUTES LATER...

One man,
and one man
alone, could take
the Konoor
Diamond, and
I have done it!
The Modern Thief
of Bagdad.

BUT WHO ARE YOU,
LADY? WHY IS THE
DIAMOND SO
IMPORTANT?

I'M OLYRA--JUST--OLYRA!
I'VE SWORN NOT TO TELL
MY FULL NAME--OR THE
SECRET MISSION MY PEOP-
LE ENTRUSTED ME WITH!
I MUST RECOVER THE
DIAMOND---
I MUST!

STARTLING
NEWS ROCKS
THE CITY!

AT HILLTOP LABORATORY

DAILY STAR EXTRA
**DARING THEFT OF
KONOOR DIAMOND!**



Guards
Murdered

CULPRIT
REPORTED
ONLY AS THE
MODERN
THIEF OF
BAGDAD!

I'VE FAILED
SO MISERABLY
IN MY MISSION--

PLEASE BE CALM,
OLYRA! MY SECRETARY,
JANE LORRAIN, WILL TAKE
CARE OF YOU! MEANWHILE,
WITH MY CURVSCOPE, I'LL
GET ON THE TRACK OF ALI
HASSAN! I PROMISE YOU
THAT!



THE CURVOSCOPE, CAPTAIN BATTLE'S ALMOST-MAGICAL TELEVISION TELESCOPE, PICKS UP A CLUE!

WHAT IS IT?

THEIR PLAN IS TO SNEAK THE DIAMOND OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

WE'VE SPOTTED THE DIAMOND-- IN CHINATOWN!

YOU STAY HERE WITH JANE, OLYRA!

WAIT! CAPTAIN BATTLE!

WE'LL BRING BACK THE KONOR FOR YOU!

HERE'S CHINATOWN! THIS IS THE APPROXIMATE SPOT--BUT NOW WHERE, EXACTLY, IS THE DIAMOND?

LOOK AT THAT FELLOW, CAP!

THEY FOLLOW THE SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER!

YOU VELLY MUCH LIKE SLEE MING VASE?

ER... UH...

BLOCKED! BUT I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

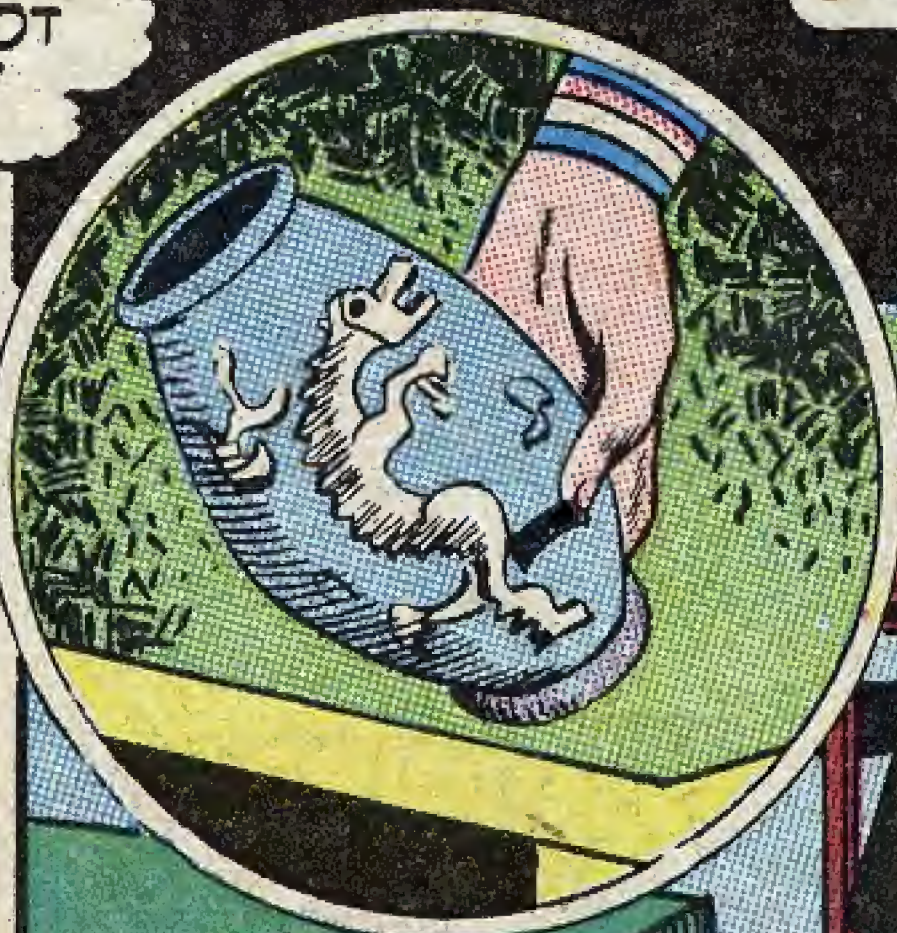
JUST A BOWERY BUM!

YES...BUT HE HAS AN ORIENTAL FACE, LIKE IN THE CURVOSCOPE! HE'S GOING INTO THAT CURIO SHOP!

OH! VELLY EXPLENSIVE VASE!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GO IN BACK CAP!

GOOD!



MEANWHILE... IN THE BACK ROOM...

ALL IS CLEAR AT THE WATER-FRONT, ALI HASSAN!

GOOD! WE WILL SKIP THE COUNTRY TONIGHT, WITH THE GREAT KO-NOOR DIAMOND, PRAISE ALLAH!

JUST A MINUTE, ALI HASSAN! YOU'RE NOT SKIPPING CAPTAIN BATTLE!

ULP!

KILL THOSE TWO WHO INTERFERE WITH ALI HASSAN!

BONG!

HIS CUTTHROAT GANG!

WHA--?

LOOKS LIKE THEY NEED ANOTHER LESSON, HALE!

YEAH, CAP! THE TEXT FOR TODAY IS---

GANGWAY!

UG!

ALLAH! ALLAH!!

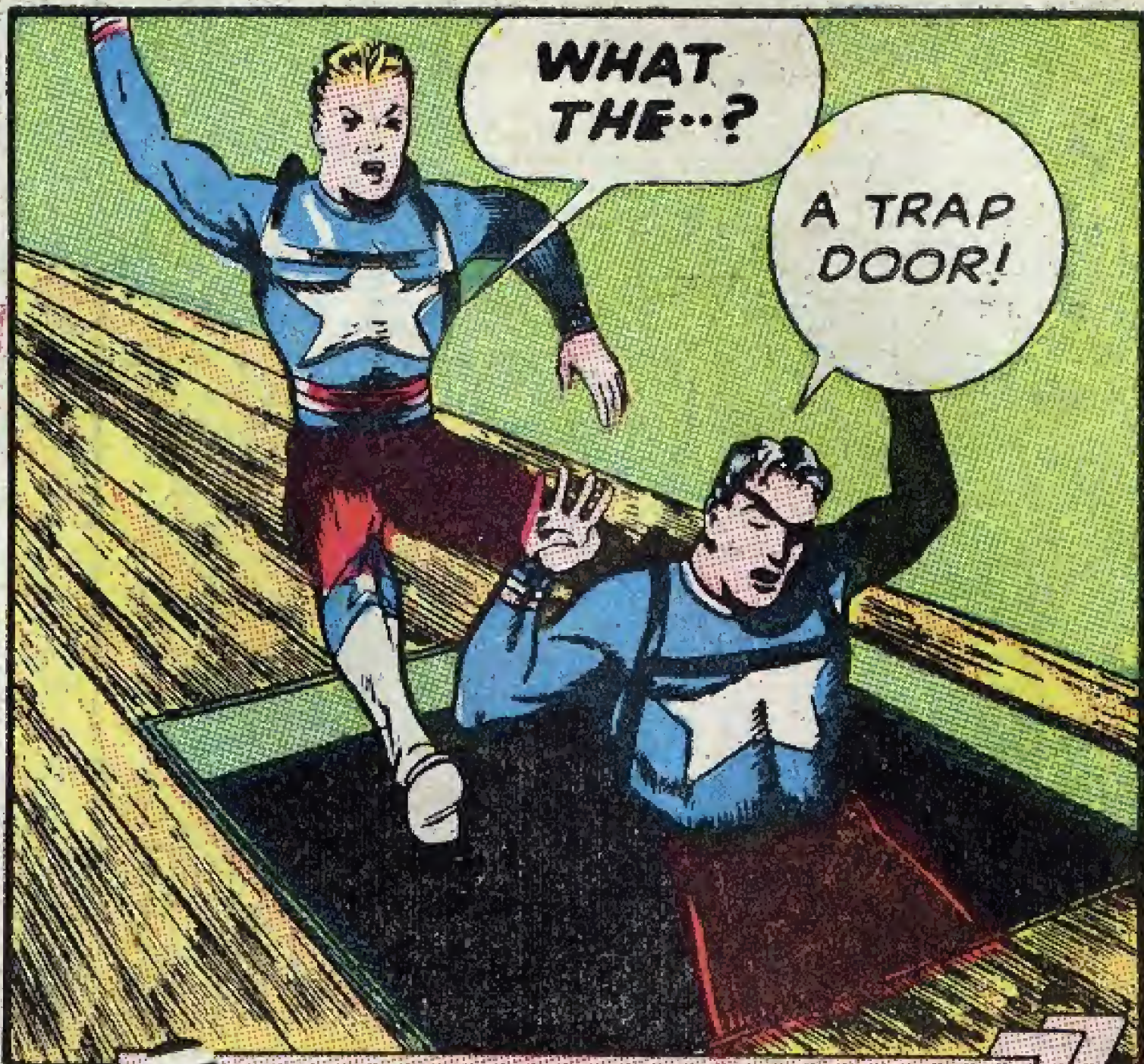
THEY GIVE CHASE TO ALI HASSAN!

---AS YOU AMERICANS SAY---

STOP, ALI-- YOU CAN'T GET AWAY!



STUNNED BY THE SUDDEN FALL, CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE HEAR A MOCKING VOICE!



THE LID CLOSES AND A DEVILISH DEVICE OF SPIKES BEGINS TO ENCIRCLE THEM---DRAWING TIGHTER AND TIGHTER!

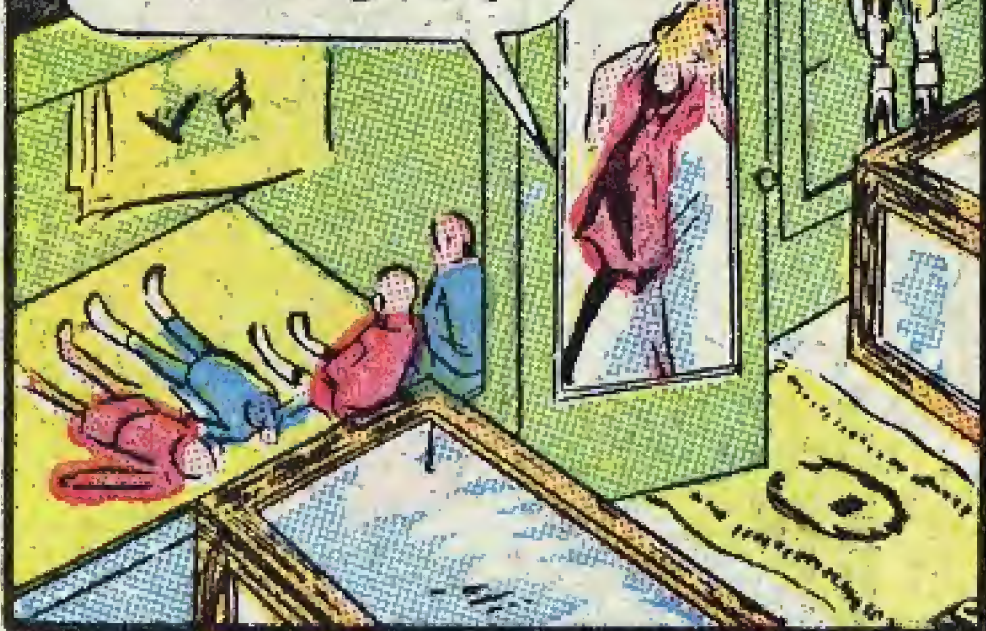


SO THE GREAT CAPTAIN BATTLE WAS ON MY TRAIL AGAIN? YOU CAN NEVER CATCH ALI HASSAN! AND NOW YOU WILL DIE, AS I CLOSE THIS LID AND PULL ANOTHER LEVER--HA!HA!



MEANWHILE, OLYRA ARRIVES IN CHINATOWN!

JANE LORRAIN GAVE ME THE READING OF THE CURVOSCOPE! IT'S HERE! I MUST SEE IF THEY RECOVERED MY KONOOR DIAMOND!



WHERE ARE CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE? I HEAR SOUNDS FURTHER ON--I'LL INVESTIGATE---



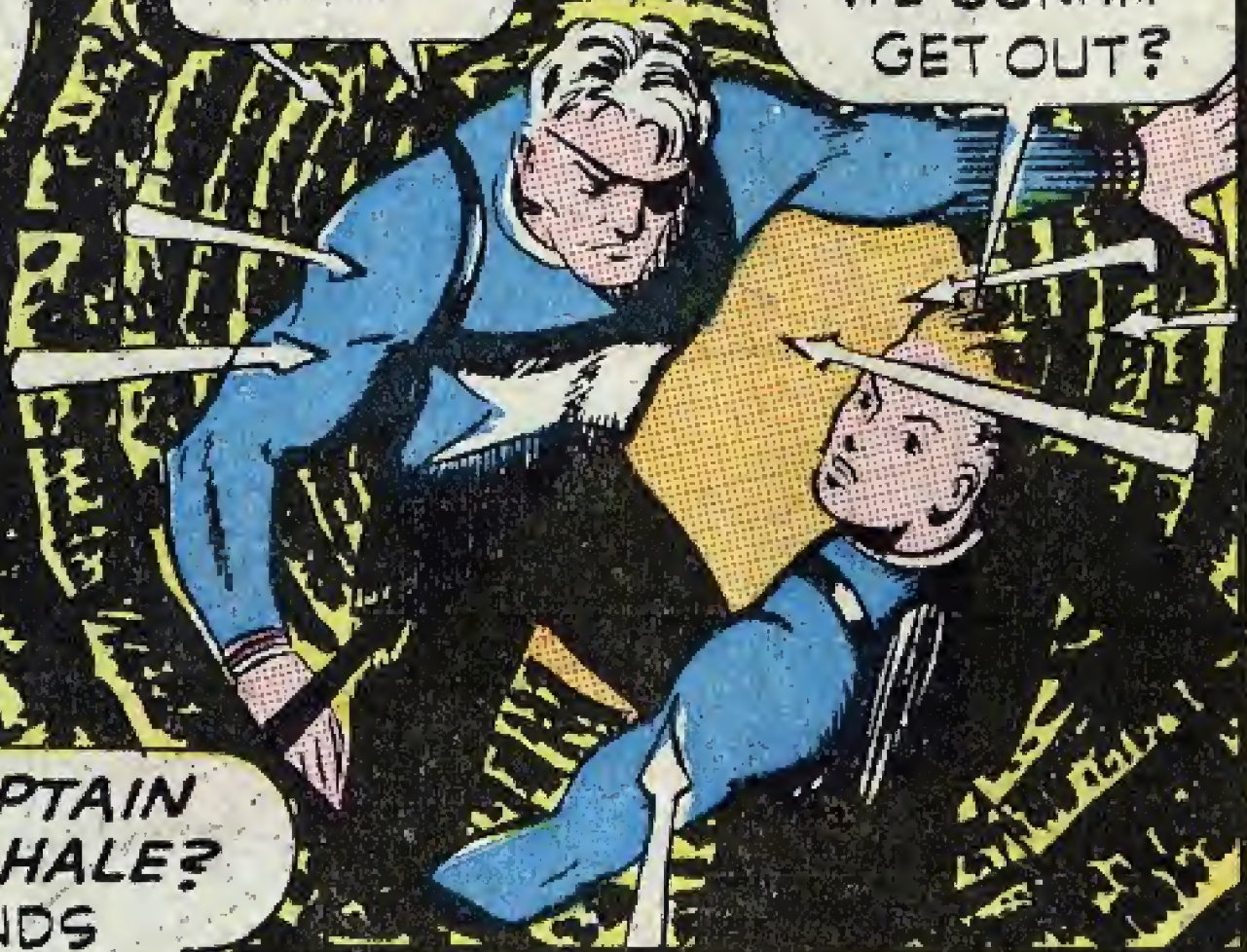
OH!

SO NOW I HAVE YOU TOO, OLYRA! I'LL TAKE YOU ALONG--YOU ARE A LOVELY GIRL--AND I'LL BE LONELY ON MY LONG TRIP!



WOW! HOW WE GONNA GET OUT?

CAN'T STOP THIS....



BACK IN THE DEATH-TRAP...

ANOTHER SECOND AND THOSE SPIKES WILL CLOSE IN ON US!

GIVE 'ER ALL YOU GOT WITH THE LUCEFLYER, HALE...IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE!

A comic panel showing two characters, a man in a blue suit with a white star on the chest and a woman in a blue and red outfit, both with wings or jetpacks. They are in a dark, rocky environment with yellow spikes closing in on them. The man is shouting and the woman is looking back.

IT WORKED! WE'RE FREE!

OLYRA'S VOICE! SHE CAME HERE AND THEY NABBED HER!

HELP! HELP!!

A comic panel showing the two characters flying away from the death trap. The man is shouting "IT WORKED! WE'RE FREE!" and the woman is shouting "HELP! HELP!!". They are flying over a green field with some yellow structures.

LOOK! ALI HASSAN'S MAKING HIS GETAWAY IN A SMALL SUBMARINE!

AND THAT'S ONE THING WE CAN'T FOLLOW UNDER-WATER! HE GAVE US THE SLIP!

A comic panel showing a small red submarine on the water. A person is visible inside. The water is green and there are some yellow structures in the background.

INSIDE---

GOSH, CAP---ALI HASSAN LEFT THE KONOOR BEHIND! OOPS..IT SLIPPED!!

A comic panel showing a close-up of a hand holding a small, yellow, faceted diamond. The hand is wearing a blue sleeve. The background is yellow.

WHY--WHY, IT SHATTERED LIKE GLASS!

IT IS GLASS, HALE--AND A NOTE POPPED OUT!

A comic panel showing a pile of shattered yellow glass. A small white note is popping out of the pile. The background is dark.

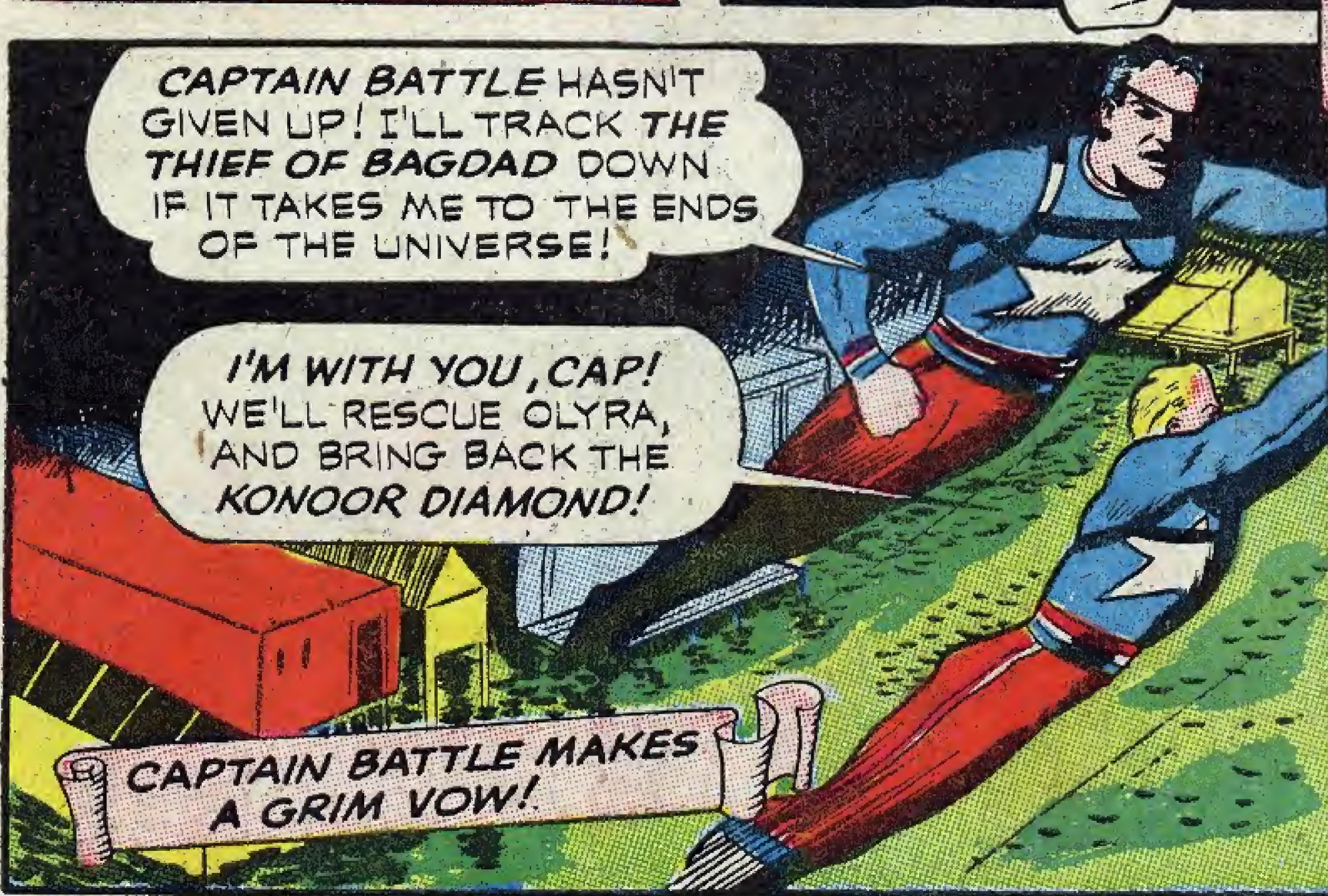
THE THIEF OF BAGDAD IS NOT SO EASILY OUTWITTED! THIS IS A FALSE STONE, PREPARED IN CASE OF PURSUIT. THE REAL KONOOR IS WITH ME, AND WHERE I AM GOING, NOBODY KNOWS!

The Thief of Bagdad

CAPTAIN BATTLE HASN'T GIVEN UP! I'LL TRACK THE THIEF OF BAGDAD DOWN IF IT TAKES ME TO THE ENDS OF THE UNIVERSE!

I'M WITH YOU, CAP! WE'LL RESCUE OLYRA, AND BRING BACK THE KONOOR DIAMOND!

CAPTAIN BATTLE MAKES A GRIM VOW!

A comic panel showing Captain Battle in a blue suit with a white star on the chest, running through a green field. He is looking back over his shoulder. A red building is visible in the background.

AND SO BEGINS A WORLD ADVENTURE...

AS THE INTREPID PAIR SWEAR TO TRACK DOWN THE ELUSIVE, MASTERFUL MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD!

Meanwhile---

SOMEWHERE OUT IN THE ATLANTIC---A SUBMARINE PLOWS THE BLUE DEPTHS, BEARING AWAY OLYRA, MYSTERY GIRL, AND THE FABULOUS--

KONOOR DIAMOND!

CAPTAIN

BATTLE

and
the

PERILS OF THE SARGASSO SEA!



AFTER DILIGENT SEARCH
WITH THE CURVSCOPE,
CAPTAIN BATTLE LOCATES
THE SPEEDING
SUBMARINE!

HALE, YOU
SHOULDN'T GO!
THERE'LL BE
DANGER!

BESIDES, I WANT
ANOTHER SOUVENIR
FOR MY COLLECTION!

THERE'S ALI
HASSAN'S SUB,
CAP!

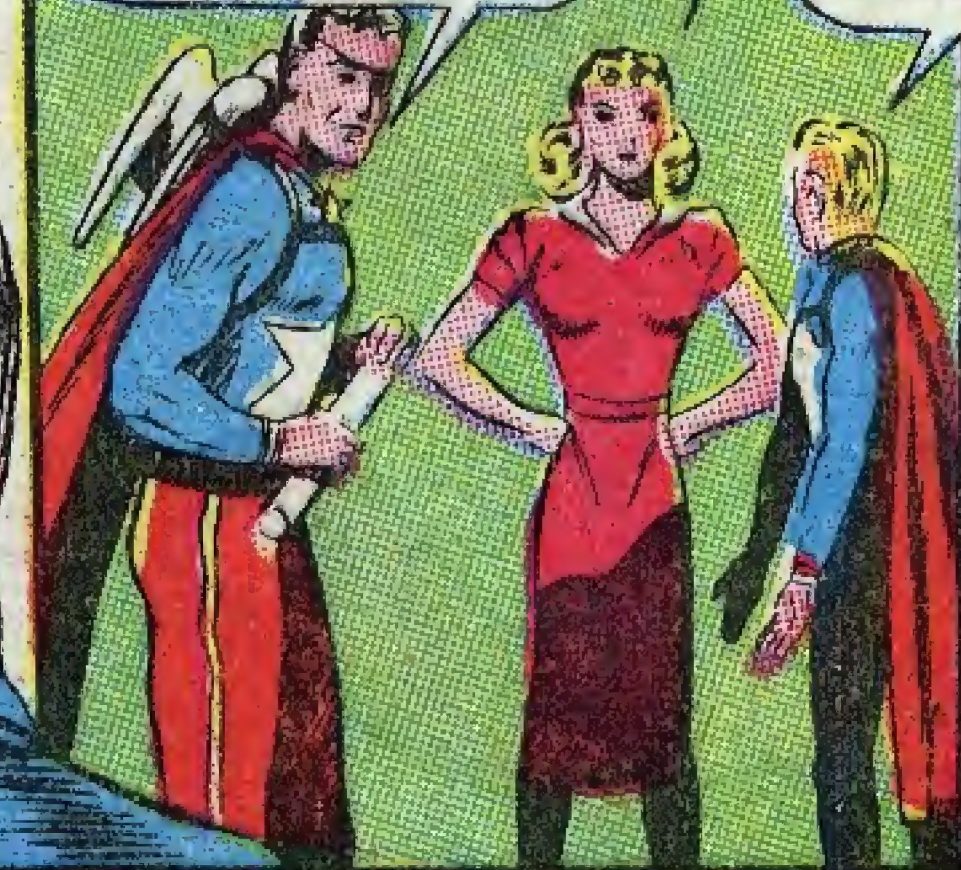
IT'S NEAR THE
SARGASSO
SEA!

I'LL TAKE ALONG
THIS COLLAPSIBLE
CURVETEOSCOPE!
AND WE'LL WEAR
THESE CAPES FOR
PROTECTION!

AW, GEE,
JANE... I'M
NOT A
KID!

THEN C'MON,
HALE! THERE'S
NO OTHER BOY
ON EARTH I'D
RATHER HAVE
ALONG THAN
YOU!

GOOD-
BYE!



LIKE TWO WHIZZING COMETS, WITH THEIR LUCEFLYERS AT TOP-SPEED, THEY FLASH TOWARD THE FAR-DISTANT SARGASSO SEA!

WHAT IS THE SARGASSO SEA, CAP? IT'S A VAST AREA OF SEAWEEED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN! IT'S THE SPOT WHERE MANY SHIPS VANISH AND ARE NEVER SEEN AGAIN!



FOOLISH HOPES, MY DEAR! ALI HASSAN, THE MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD, HAS ESCAPED AMERICA WITH OLYRA AND THE GREAT KONOOR DIAMOND! HA-HA!

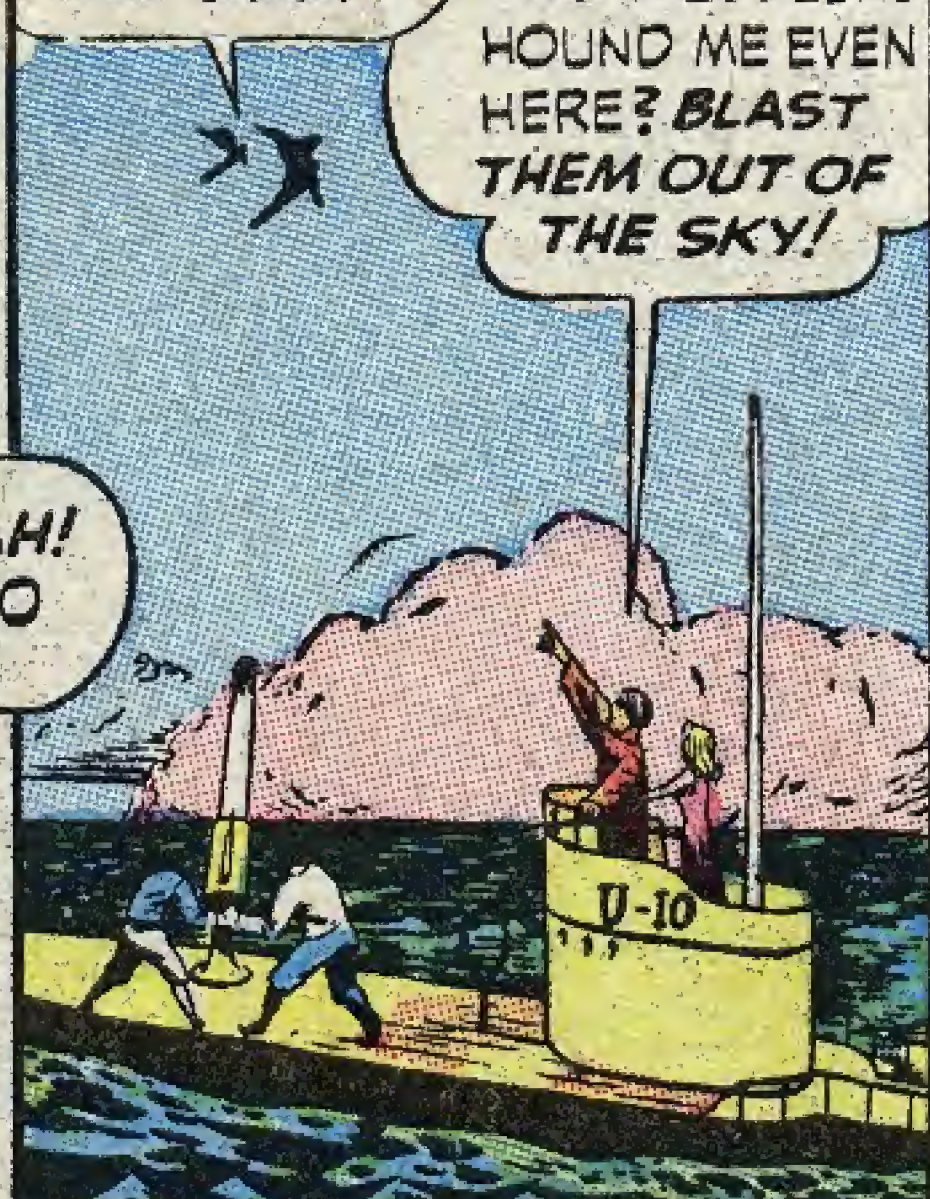
OH--IF ONLY CAPTAIN BATTLE WOULD COME!

MEANWHILE... FAR OUT ON THE ATLANTIC---



LOOK, CAP... THE SUB!

MUST THOSE TWO MEDDLERS HOUND ME EVEN HERE? BLAST THEM OUT OF THE SKY!



THEY OPENED FIRE ON US!

CAPTAIN BATTLE! SAVE ME!!



GOSH! THAT WAS CLOSE!

THE OLD CORKSCREW DIVE!

DOWN AT THEM, HALE! WE'LL STOP THIS BUSINESS MIGHTY QUICK!

AND THEN---CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE GIVE AN AMAZING EXHIBITION OF AERIAL ACROBATICS!

BELOW, ALL OF YOU! WE WILL SUBMERGE AND ESCAPE!

WE'LL HIDE AMONG THE OLD DERELICT SHIPS CAUGHT IN THE SEAWEEED OF THE SARGASSO SEA! CAPTAIN BATTLE WILL NEVER FIND US--HA! HA!!

THE SMALL SUBMARINE DIVES...



THE TWO SEARCHERS
HOVER OVER THE VAST
"GRAVEYARD" OF
SHIPS... BAFFLED!

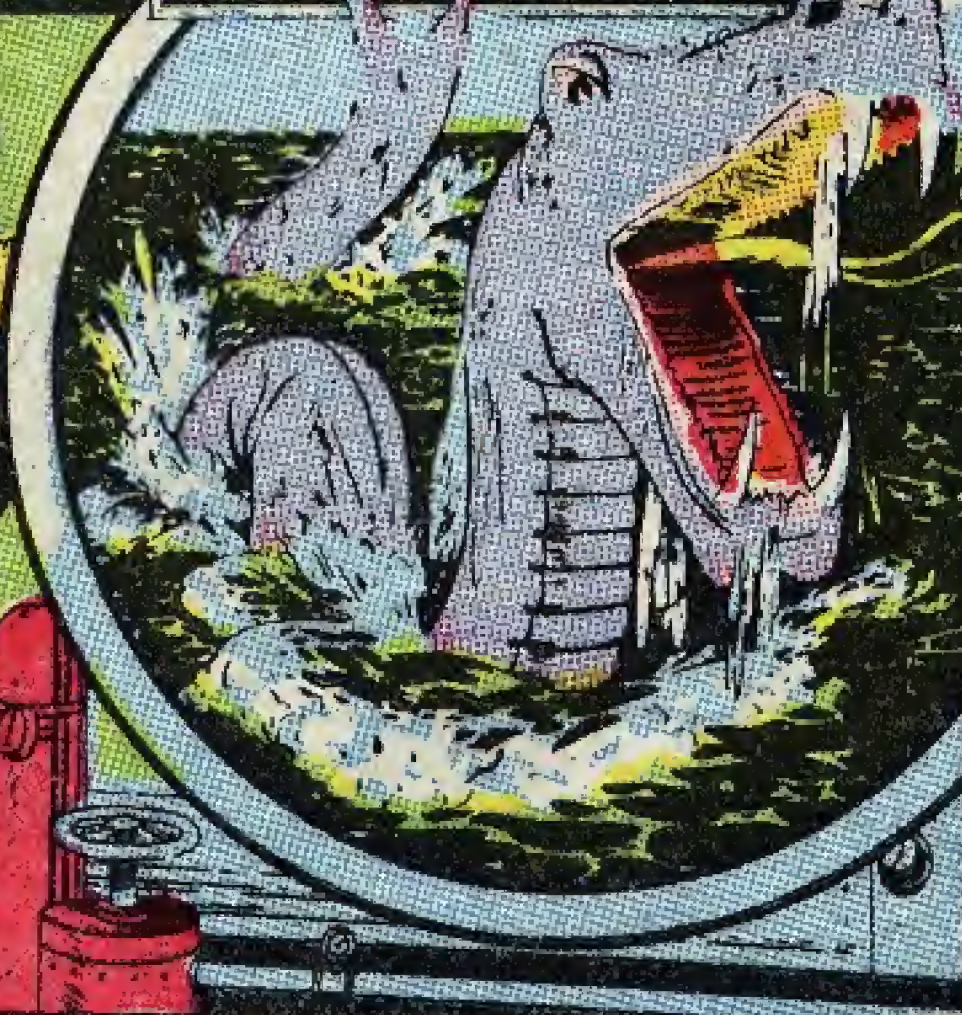
ALI SLIPPED THE
SUB SOMEWHERE
AMONG THOSE
OLD HULKS!

GOSH, CAP,
WE'LL NEVER
FIND HIM
HERE!

HA! HA! ALI HASSAN HAS
OUTWITTED CAPTAIN
BATTLE AGAIN!

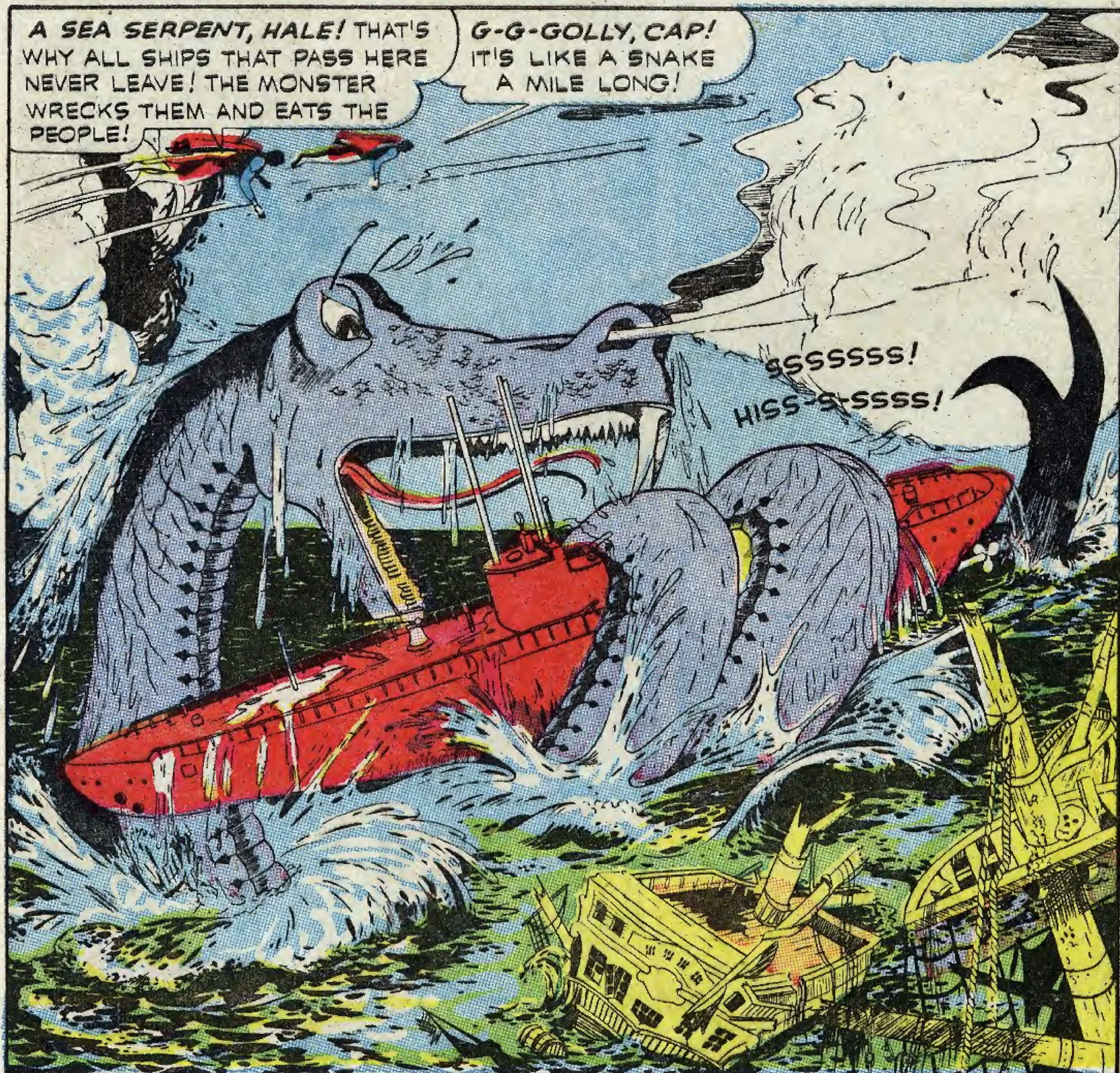
ALLAH HELP
US--- A SEA
SERPENT!

A HORRIFYING MONSTER
FROM THE PAGES OF FABLE
REARS OUT OF ITS LAIR--
A DANK ISLAND OF
SEAWEED!



A SEA SERPENT, HALE! THAT'S
WHY ALL SHIPS THAT PASS HERE
NEVER LEAVE! THE MONSTER
WRECKS THEM AND EATS THE
PEOPLE!

G-G-GOLLY, CAP!
IT'S LIKE A SNAKE
A MILE LONG!



SSSSSSSS!
HISS-S-SSSS!

WITHIN THE SUB... A MERE TOY TO THE GIGANTIC BEAST... ALL IS CHAOS!



BUT FEARLESSLY, THE FIGHTER PAIR-- CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE ATTACK THE FRIGHTFUL MONSTER!

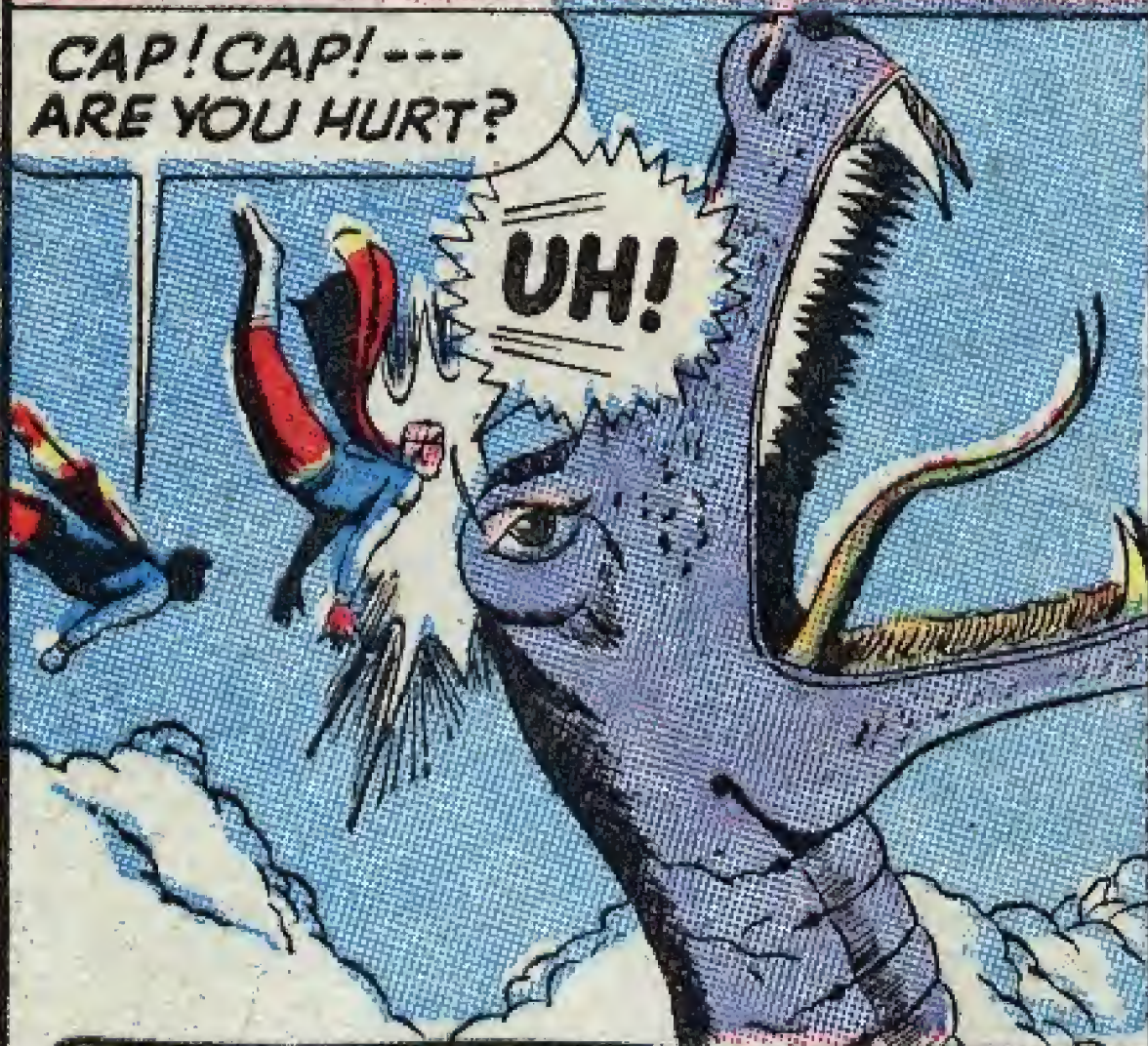
WE MUST TRY TO SAVE THEM!

HERE GOES!



WITH A FLICK OF ITS TERRIBLE HEAD, THE SEA SERPENT KNOCKS CAPTAIN BATTLE AWAY LIKE A FLY!

CAP! CAP!... ARE YOU HURT?



GOSH, CAP--- FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT YOU WERE DONE FOR!

I'M ALL RIGHT! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO TRY-- ARE YOU GAME TO RISK YOUR LIFE?



SEEMINGLY INTO THE VERY JAWS OF THE NIGHTMARE HORROR RUSH CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE!

GET A GOOD GRIP, HALE!

GOT IT, CAP!



THE MONSTER'S JAWS CRACK APART!

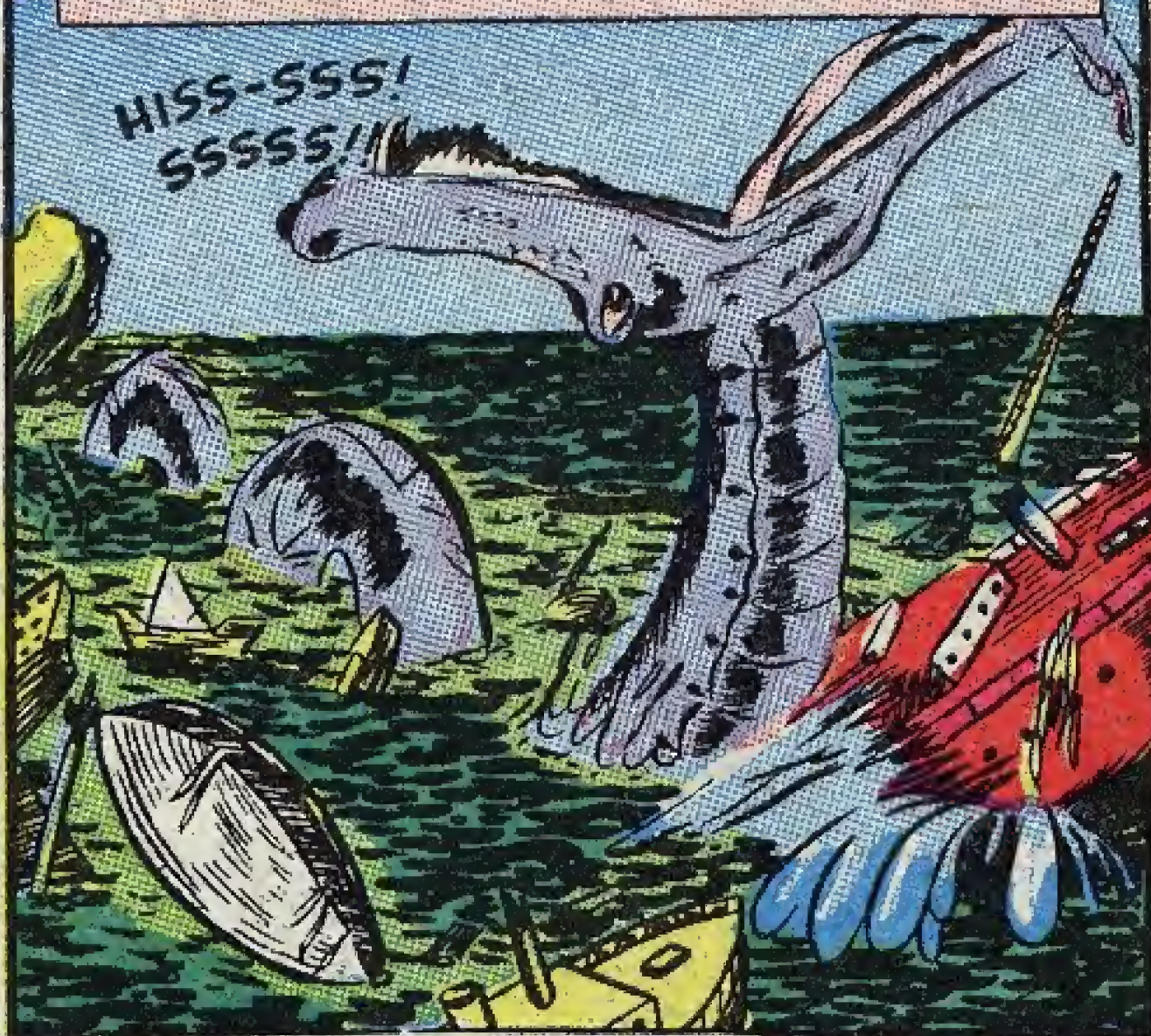
HEAVE HO!

SAY AHHAH, BIG BOY!

CR-RAACK!!



AND IT GOES ROARING AND LASHING AWAY, WITH ITS BROKEN JAWS, DEFEATED BY TWO HUMAN MITES!



HISS-SSS!
SSSSS!!!

Meanwhile...THOSE ABOARD THE WRECKED SUB HAVE SCRAMBLED TO SAFETY ABOARD AN OLD HULK NEARBY!

IT APPEARS THAT ALI HASSAN OWES YOU HIS LIFE ---
CAPTAIN BATTLE!

SKIP THE THANKS, ALI...WHERE IS THE KONOOR DIAMOND?



YOU WIN! FOLLOW ME!
I HID THE DIAMOND BELOW THE DECK--LEST THE MONSTER KNOCK IT AWAY!

CAPTURE THEM!

THIS WAS A TRAP--
UGH!



KNOCKED OUT BY THE TREACHEROUS ALI HASSAN, CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE OPEN THEIR EYES, A WHILE LATER, TO A HORRIBLE SIGHT!

WHA--?
UGH!
SKELETONS!

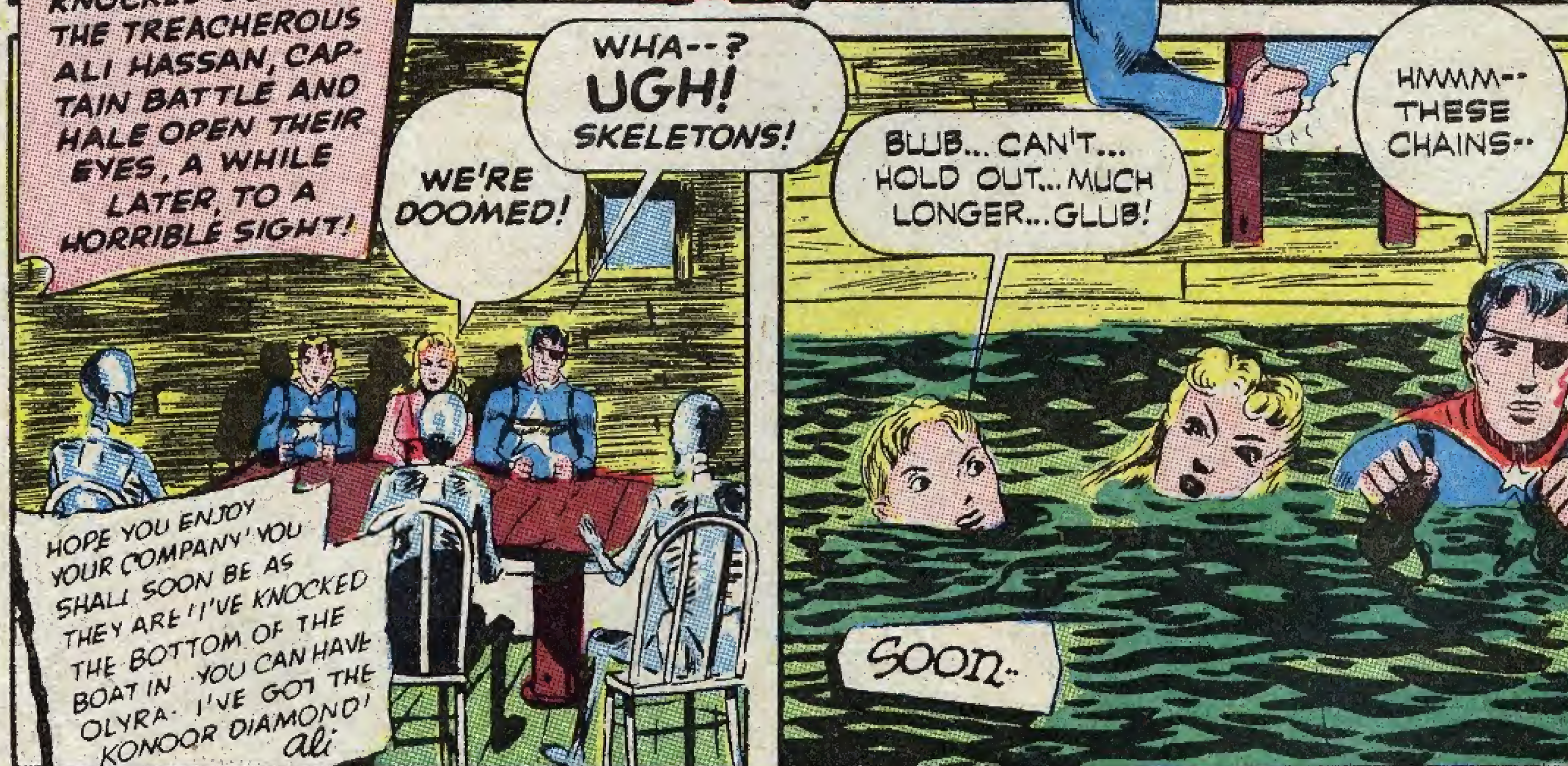
WE'RE DOOMED!

BLUB... CAN'T...
HOLD OUT...MUCH LONGER...GLUB!

HMMM--
THESE CHAINS--

HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR COMPANY! YOU SHALL SOON BE AS THEY ARE! I'VE KNOCKED THE BOTTOM OF THE BOAT IN. YOU CAN HAVE OLYRA. I'VE GOT THE KONOOR DIAMOND!
ali

SOON..



---ARE OLD AND RUSTY
ENOUGH TO GIVE WAY!



JUST TAKES A SECOND
TO FREE YOU TWO THE
SAME WAY!



AND ANOTHER
SECOND TO CLEAR
OUR WAY OUT--
WITH THIS
ANCHOR!

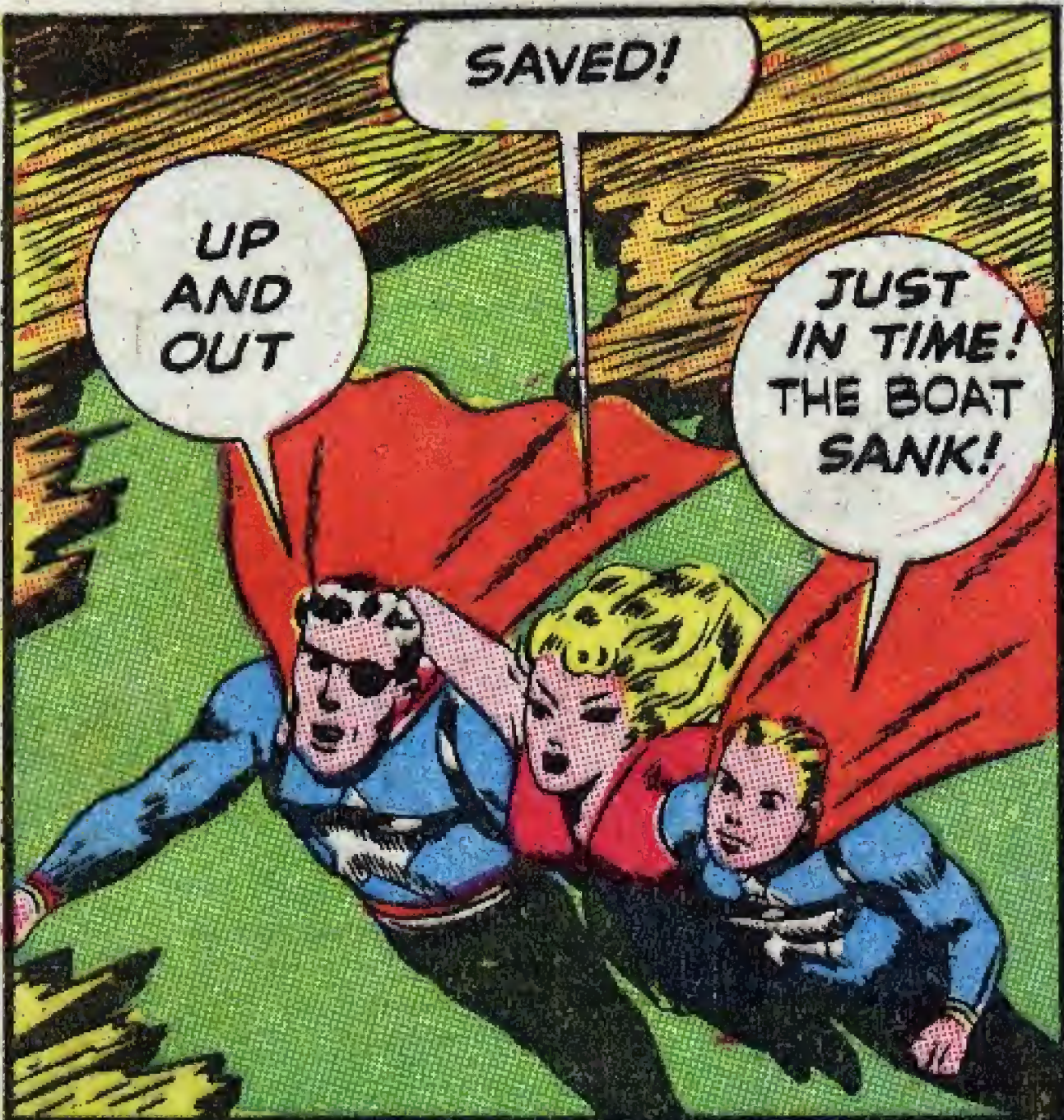


JUST...
IN TIME...
CAP...

SAVED!

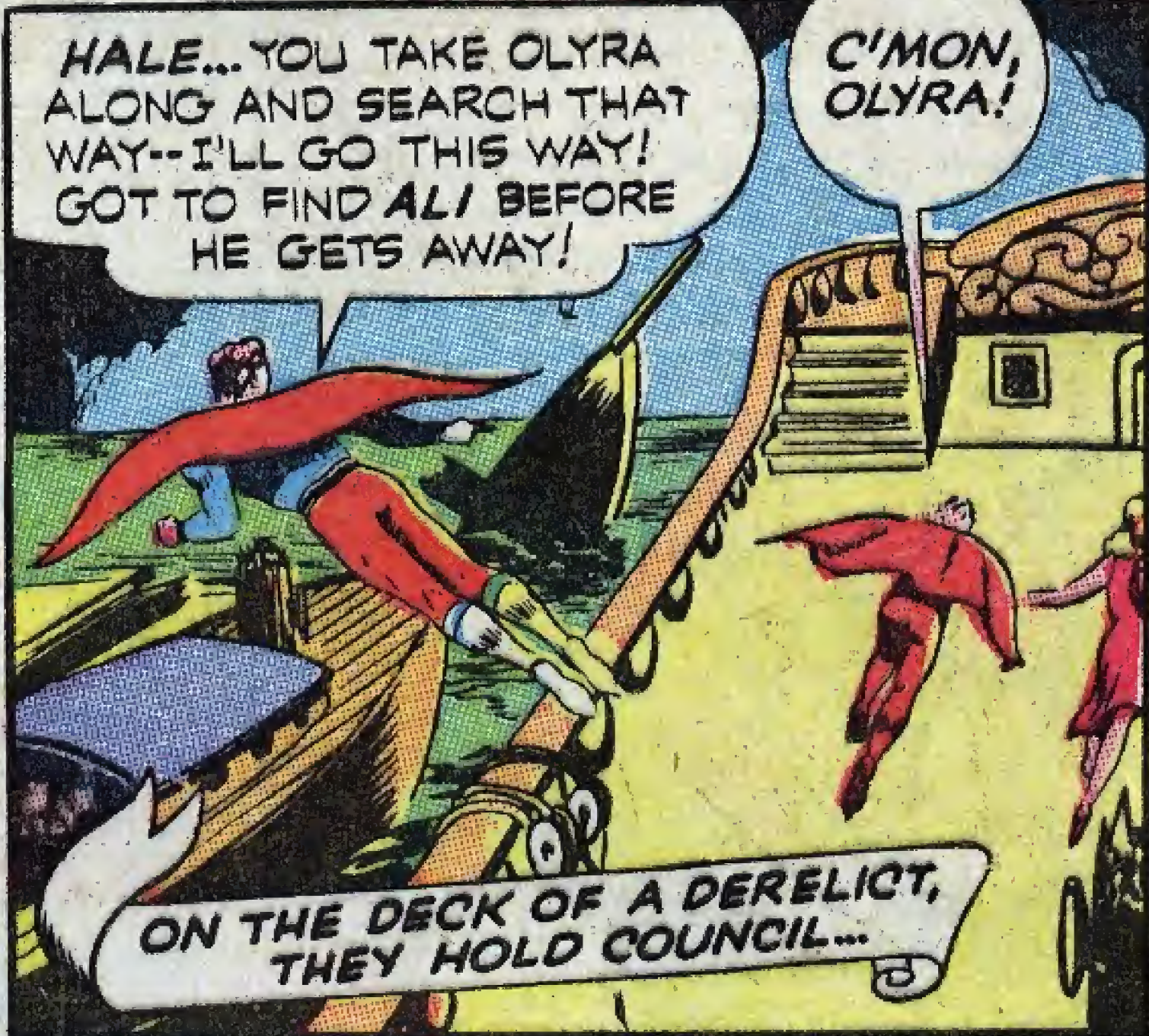
UP
AND
OUT

JUST
IN TIME!
THE BOAT
SANK!



HALE... YOU TAKE OLYRA
ALONG AND SEARCH THAT
WAY-- I'LL GO THIS WAY!
GOT TO FIND ALI BEFORE
HE GETS AWAY!

C'MON,
OLYRA!



ON THE DECK OF A DERELICT,
THEY HOLD COUNCIL...

HALE AND OLYRA SEARCH THE SHIPS...

IF YOU SPOT
ALI, YELL LOUD,
OLYRA!

HE MUST NOT
ESCAPE WITH MY
KONOOR DIAMOND!



THE DERELICTS OF THE SARGASSO SEA
INCLUDE ANCIENT HULKS OF THE PAST--

AN OLD GALLEY SHIP...
AND ALI HASSAN
IS NOT HERE!



WILL WE NEVER FIND ALI HASSAN?

SAY...THIS WAS ONCE AN OLD PIRATE SHIP, OLYRA! ISN'T IT SORT OF EXCITING TO SEE THESE THINGS?

HEAVENS! THE PIRATE COSTUMES CAME TO LIFE!

H-H-HOLY SMOKE! GHOSTS!!



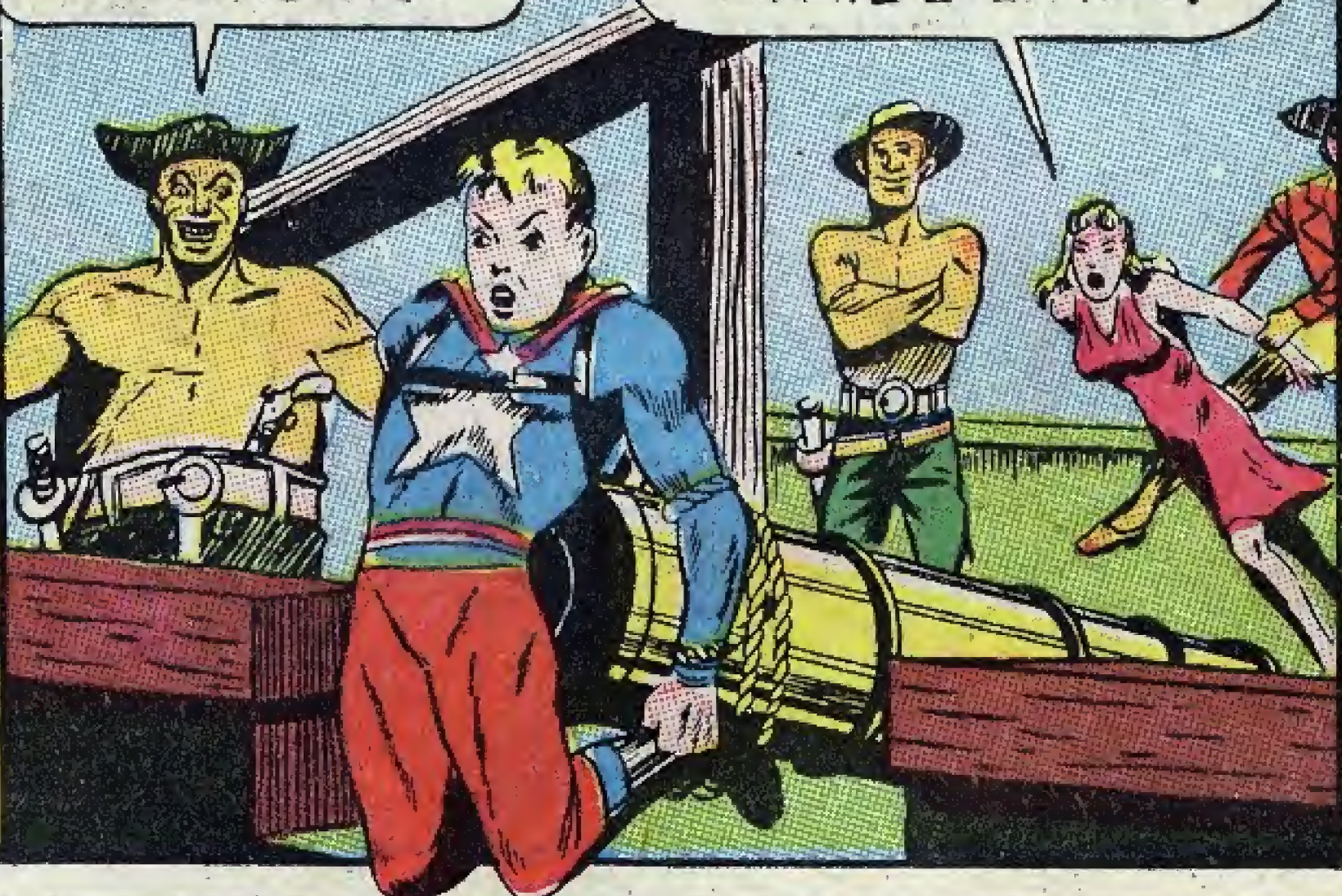
A FAMILIAR VOICE MOCKS THEM!

THE PRISONERS ARE TAKEN UP ON DECK...TO A MALICIOUS FATE!

NOT GHOSTS... JUST YOUR OLD FRIEND, ALI HASSAN! SEEING YOU COMING...WE DISGUISED OURSELVES TO TRAP YOU! HA! HA!

THE OLD PIRATES HAD THE RIGHT IDEA! HO! HO! HO!

YOU BEAST! YOU'RE WORSE THAN ANY PIRATE EVER WAS!

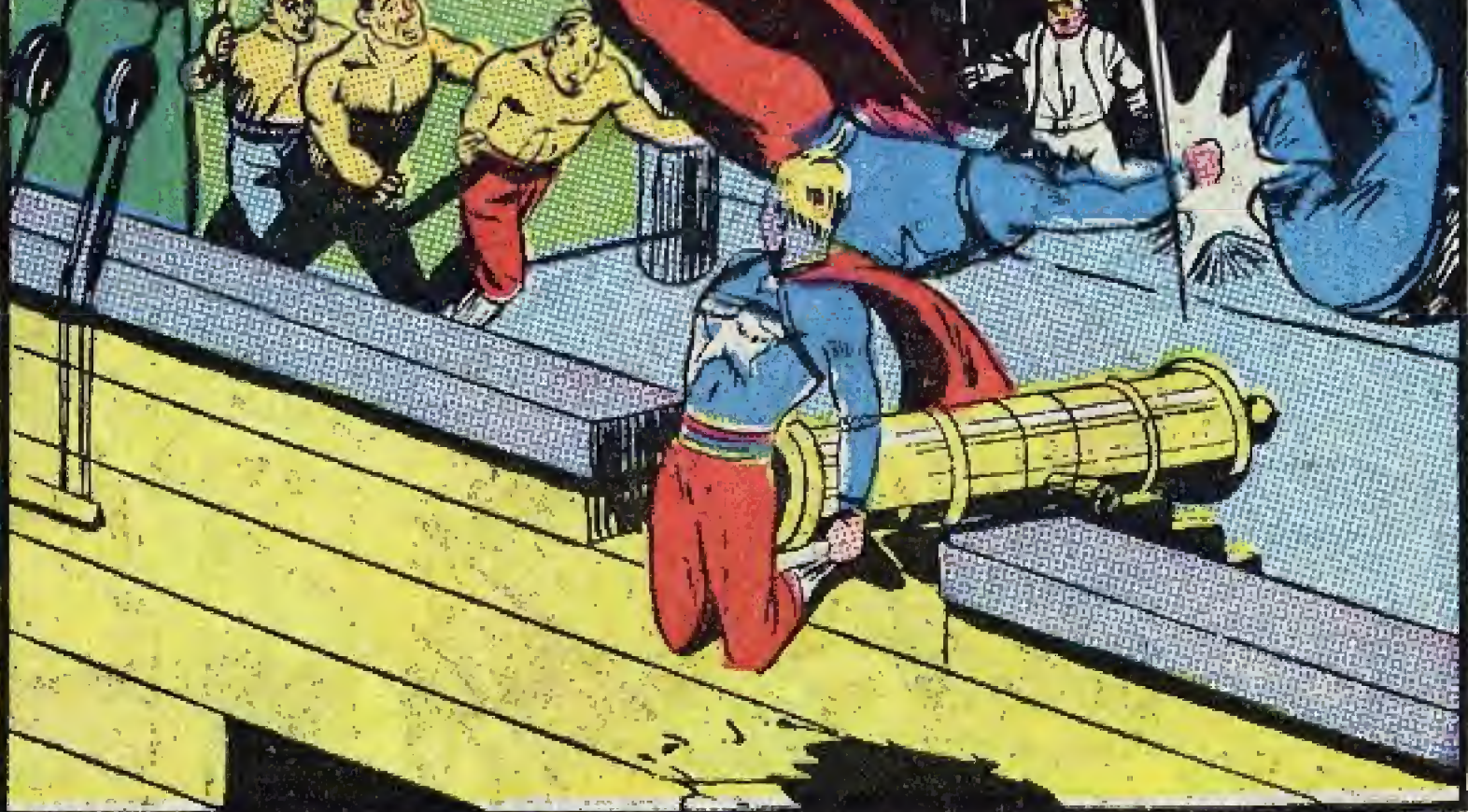
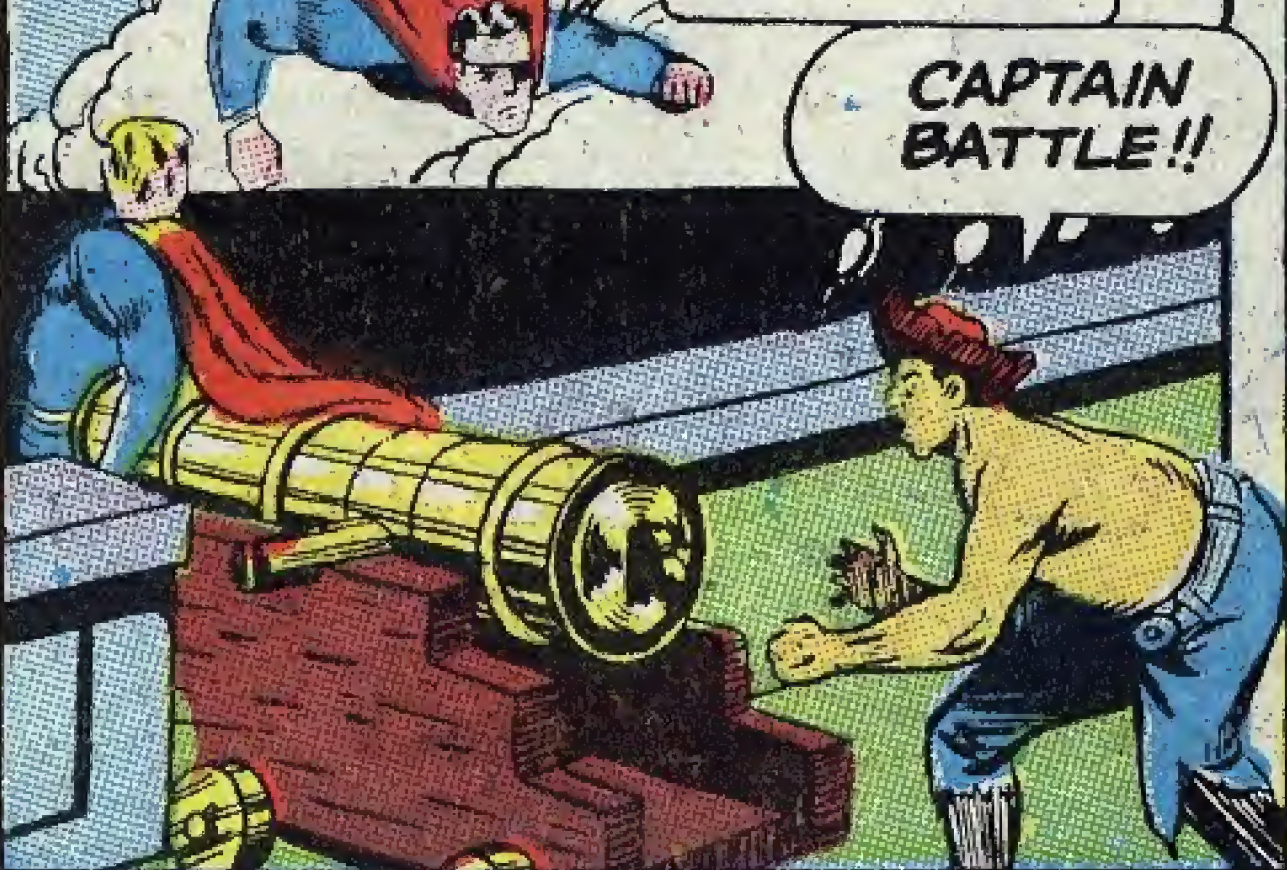


FORGOT ABOUT ME -- DIDN'T YOU, ALI HASSAN? I KNEW HALE AND OLYRA WOULD DECOY YOU FROM YOUR HIDING! I'VE FOLLOWED THEM ALL THE TIME!

CAPTAIN BATTLE!!

WE WILL SLASH THE AMERICAN TO BLOODY RIBBONS!

LOOK OUT, CAPTAIN BATTLE!





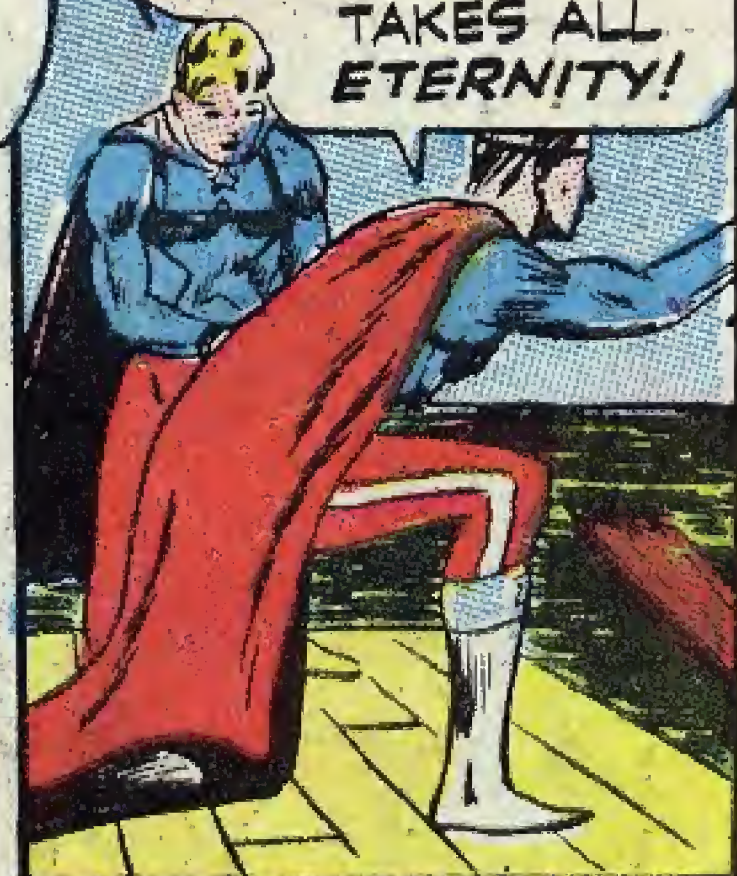
THROWN IN THE SARGASSO SEAWEEED-- CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE WATCH HELPLESSLY!

THE LUCEFLYERS OUGHT TO DRY OUT IN A FEW HOURS!

AND WE CAN'T FOLLOW RIGHT NOW! OUR LUCEFLYERS ARE SOAKED!

ALI HASSAN'S GOT OLYRA AND THE KONOR DIAMOND YET! BUT WE'LL TRACK HIM DOWN IF IT TAKES ALL ETERNITY!

HE HAS A SEA-PLANE!



Captain BATTLE

LOST in the UNDERGROUND WORLD!

Where HAS ALI HASSAN VANISHED THIS TIME -- WITH THE PRICELESS KONOR DIAMOND, AND ITS STRANGE GIRL GUARDIAN? CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE HAVE VOWED TO SEARCH UNCEASINGLY -- EVEN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH! WHAT NEW PERILS WAIT AHEAD, AS THEY PURSUE THE CUNNING MODERN THIEF OF BAGDAD?



WITH HIS PORTABLE CUR-VETTEOSCOPE UNFOLDED... CAPTAIN BATTLE AGAIN PICKS UP THE TRAIL OF THE THIEF OF BAGDAD!

THE ADVENTUROUS PAIR TAKE LEAVE OF THE SARGASSO SEA.

LOOK! THEIR PLANE IS FLUTTERING DOWN!

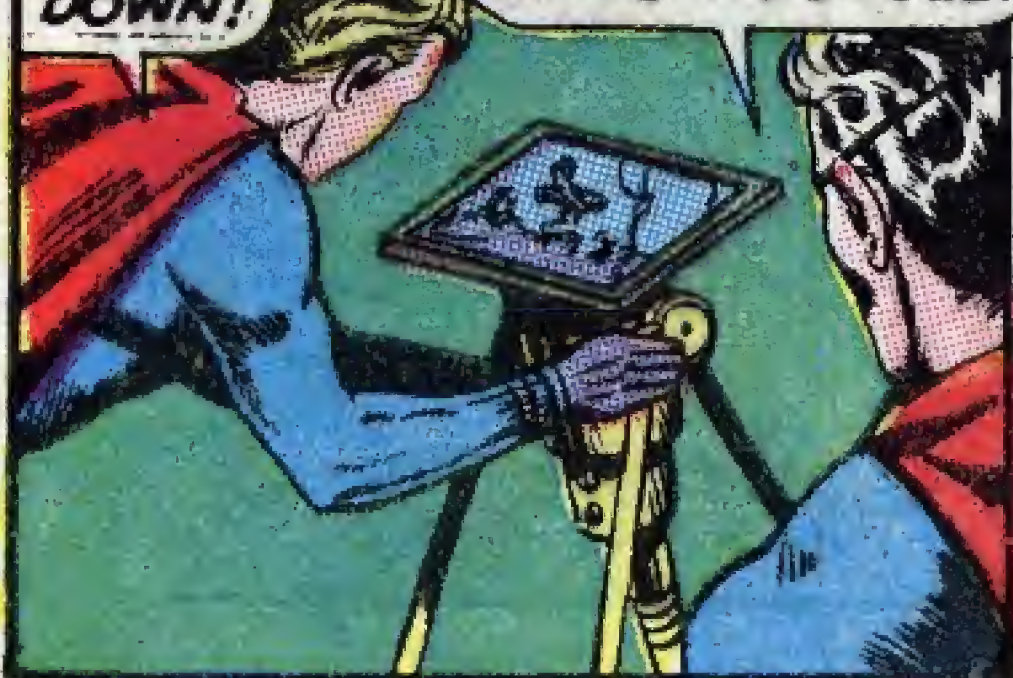
THEY'RE HAVING ENGINE TROUBLE, RIGHT OVER THE AFRICAN JUNGLE!

WE'VE HAD PLENTY OF THRILLS HERE AT THE SARGASSO SEA--

AND PLENTY MORE IN AFRICA, I THINK!

HERE'S THE SPOT WHERE THE PLANE FELL!

RIGHT IN THE HEART OF DARKEST AFRICA!



THEY FIND THE WRECKED PLANE DESERTED!

THERE ARE NO BODIES AROUND-
WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?

LISTEN, CAP...
TOM-TOMS!

MEANWHILE, THE UNFORTUNATE SURVIVORS OF THE PLANE ARE VICTIMS OF CANNIBALS!

YUM, YUM!
SOON EAT!!

OH--IT'S SCALDING!
IF ONLY CAPTAIN BATTLE WERE HERE!

YES! EVEN
I WISH
-THAT!

SUDDENLY...

CAPTAIN BATTLE IS
HERE!

UG?

SORRY TO TAKE AWAY
YOUR DINNER,
CHIEF OLD BOY!

TAKE THEM
TO THAT
CLEARING
UP AHEAD!

I'VE SAVED YOU
AGAIN, ALI, BECAUSE
I CAN'T LEAVE EVEN
A MURDEROUS
BLACKGUARD LIKE
YOU TO SUCH
A TERRIBLE
FATE!

BUT THIS IS WHAT I WANTED
MAINLY! NOW--ON YOUR WAY,
ALI, BEFORE I FORGET I'M
A CIVILIZED MAN!

A WHILE LATER, THE
AMAZING FLIGHT ENDS!

ALI HASSAN PLEADS IN COWARDLY FEAR!

WE ARE HELPLESS
AND UNARMED!
YOU WOULDN'T
LEAVE US TO DIE
IN THE JUNGLE!

ALL RIGHT--WE'LL MAKE
THE RETURN TRIP TO
CIVILIZATION
TOGETHER!

MAYBE IT'S
A TRICK,
CAP!

NEARBY ARE THE RUINS OF
AN ANCIENT, DEAD CITY...

**FOR TONIGHT--
WE'LL SLEEP IN
THESE RUINS!**

IT IS A
HAUNTED
CITY! ALLAH
PRESERVE
US!

HAUNTED?
M-MAYBE
WE'D BETTER
G-G-GO ON,
CAP!

NONSENSE!
FORGET
IT, HALE!

THOUGHT
I HEARD
SOMETHING!

I, TOO!
OHH! LOOK!
(GHOSTS!)

AND THROUGH THE
HOARY RUINS OF THE
DEAD CITY COMES A
GHASTLY TROOP!

GO! GO! YOU BELONG NOT HERE! WE ARE THE SPIRITS OF THE LOST PEOPLE OF THIS ANCIENT, HALLOWED CITY! GO!



GHOSTS!

OH!

WHA...?



BUT CAPTAIN BATTLE CHARGES THE FEARSOME APPARITIONS!

GHOSTS, EH?



RATHER SOLID CHINS FOR GHOSTS, I'D SAY!

WHY...IT'S ALI HASSAN'S MEN!

MY SCHEME WORKED! NOW TO TAKE THE KONOOR, AND ALSO SLIP ON THIS LUCE-FLYER OF HIS...

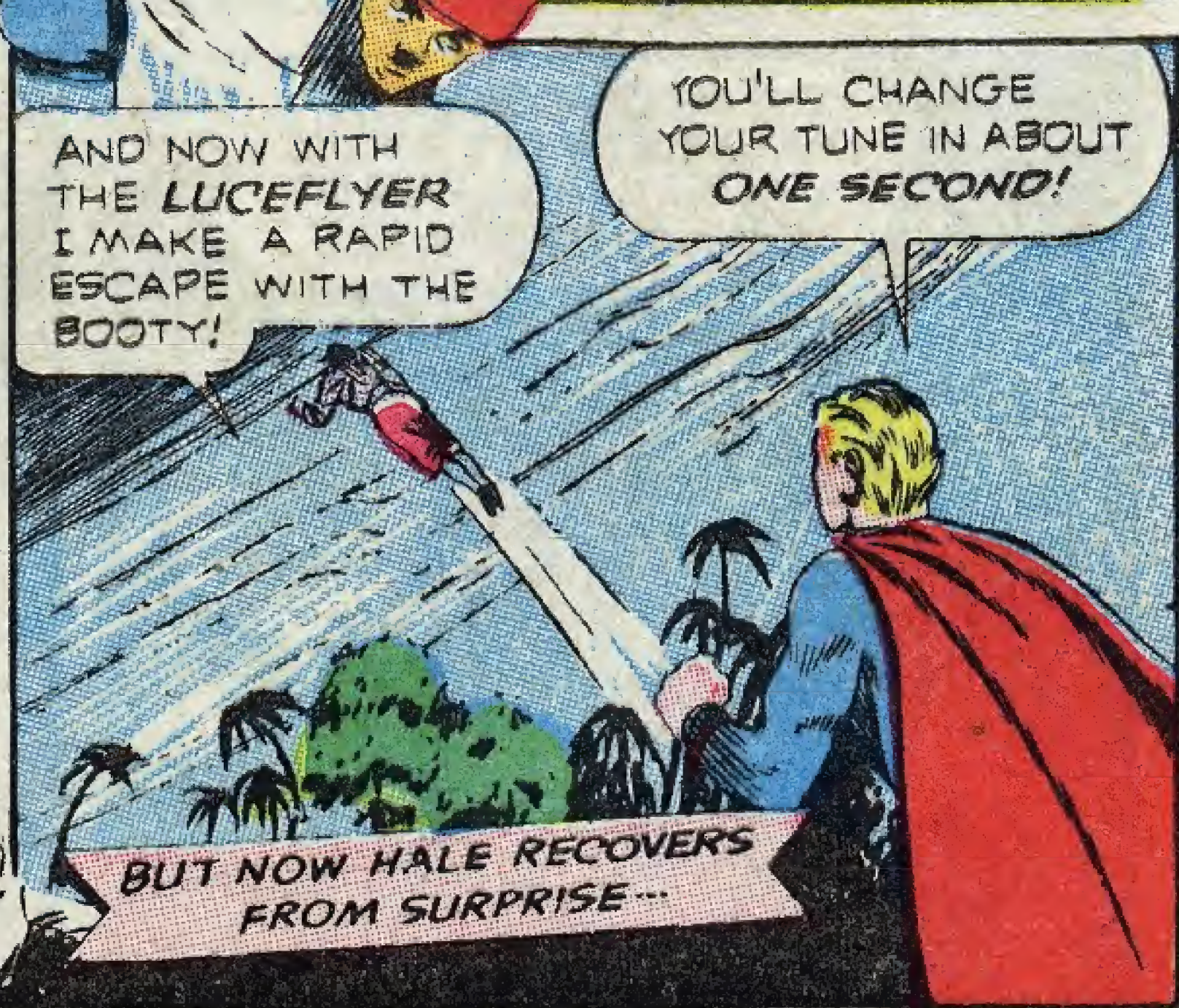
ALI HASSAN SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY!



HERE'S THE KONOOR DIAMOND, CAPTAIN BATTLE--HA! HA!!

UG!

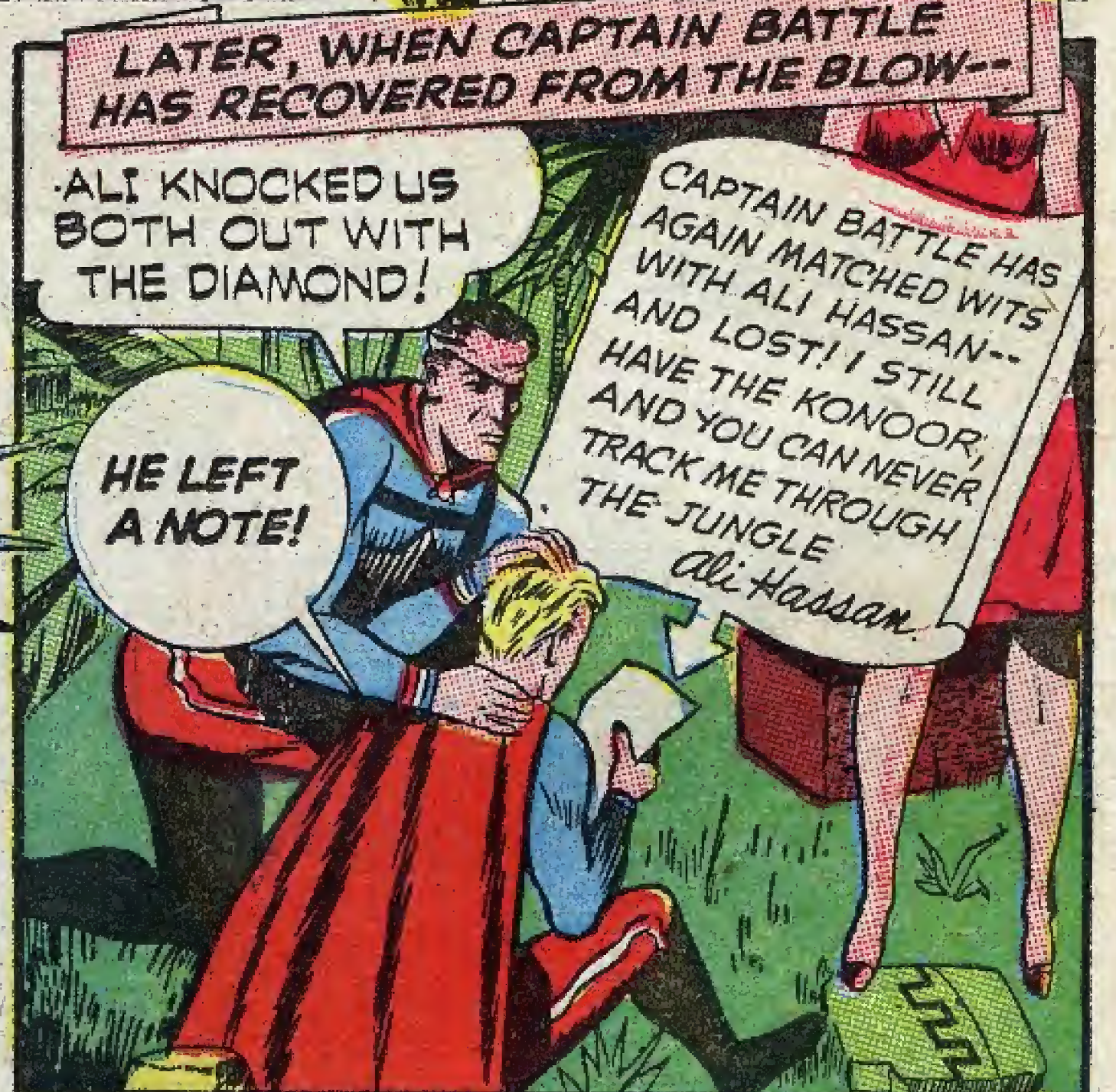
POW!



AND NOW WITH THE LUCEFLYER I MAKE A RAPID ESCAPE WITH THE BOOTY!

YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR TUNE IN ABOUT ONE SECOND!

BUT NOW HALE RECOVERS FROM SURPRISE...



BUT THE MIGHTY BEAST IS TREATED TO A SURPRISE!

YOU MADE A MISTAKE, MR. GORILLA, TACKLING CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HIS FRIENDS!



BUT THEN--

WHA...?

QUICKSAND!

I KNEW YOU'D CATCH UP, CAPTAIN BATTLE! SO I WAITED AT THIS QUICKSAND PIT TO TRAP YOU! GOODBYE! HA! HAAA!



BUT UNKNOWN TO ALI HASSAN, THE THREE HE LEFT FOR DEAD ARE SUCKED THROUGH AN UNDERGROUND CAVERN!

WHA...? WE'RE ALIVE! WHERE ARE WE?

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF AN UNDERGROUND WORLD, NEVER BEFORE KNOWN TO EXIST!



FINALLY, AT NIGHTFALL, AFTER HASTENING SWIFTLY ALONG THE TRAIL

DIDN'T THINK YOU'D GET AWAY, DID YOU, ALI?

WE CAUGHT THEM!



Later... JUST BUBBLES REMAIN ON THE SURFACE OF THE QUICKSAND PIT... IS IT THE END OF CAPTAIN BATTLE?

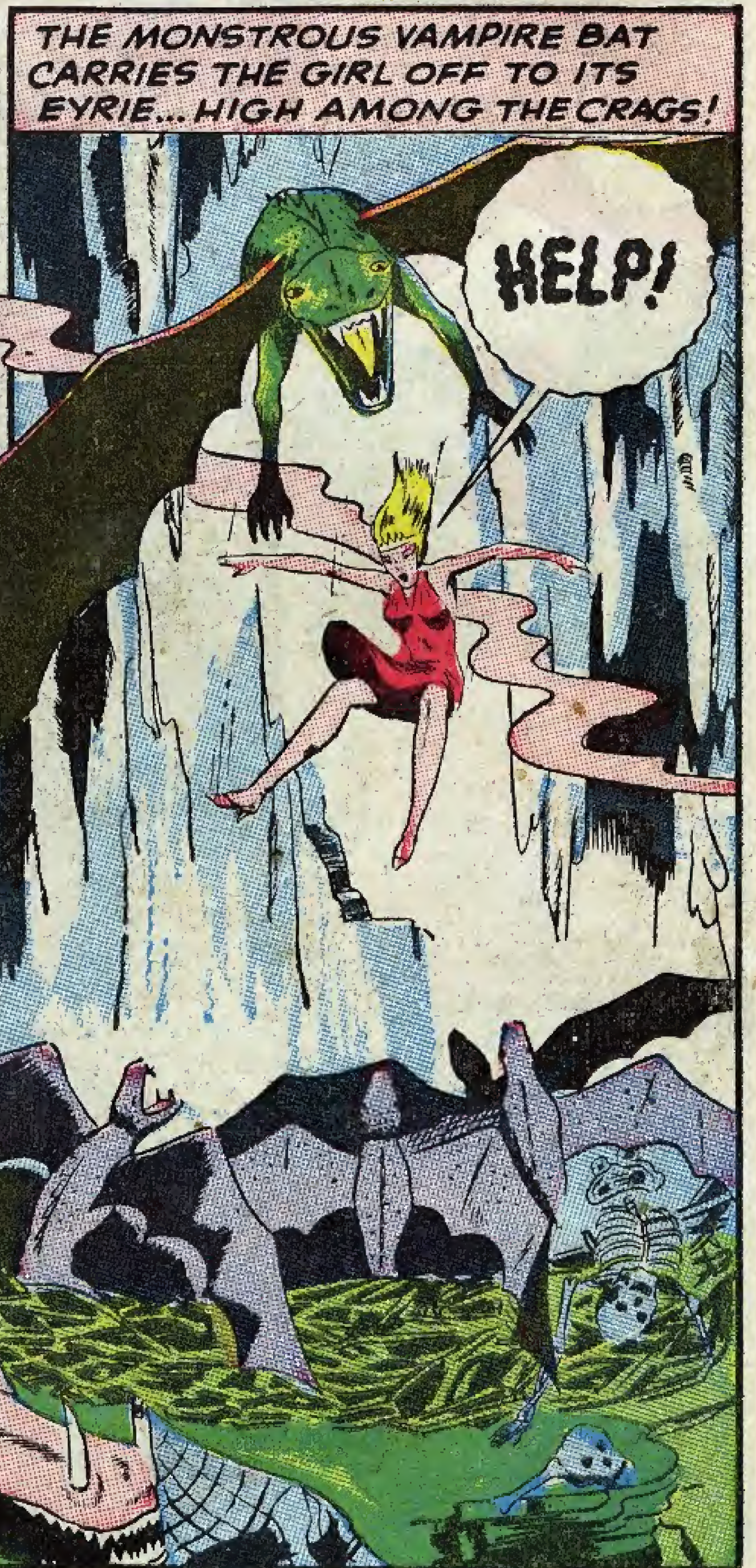
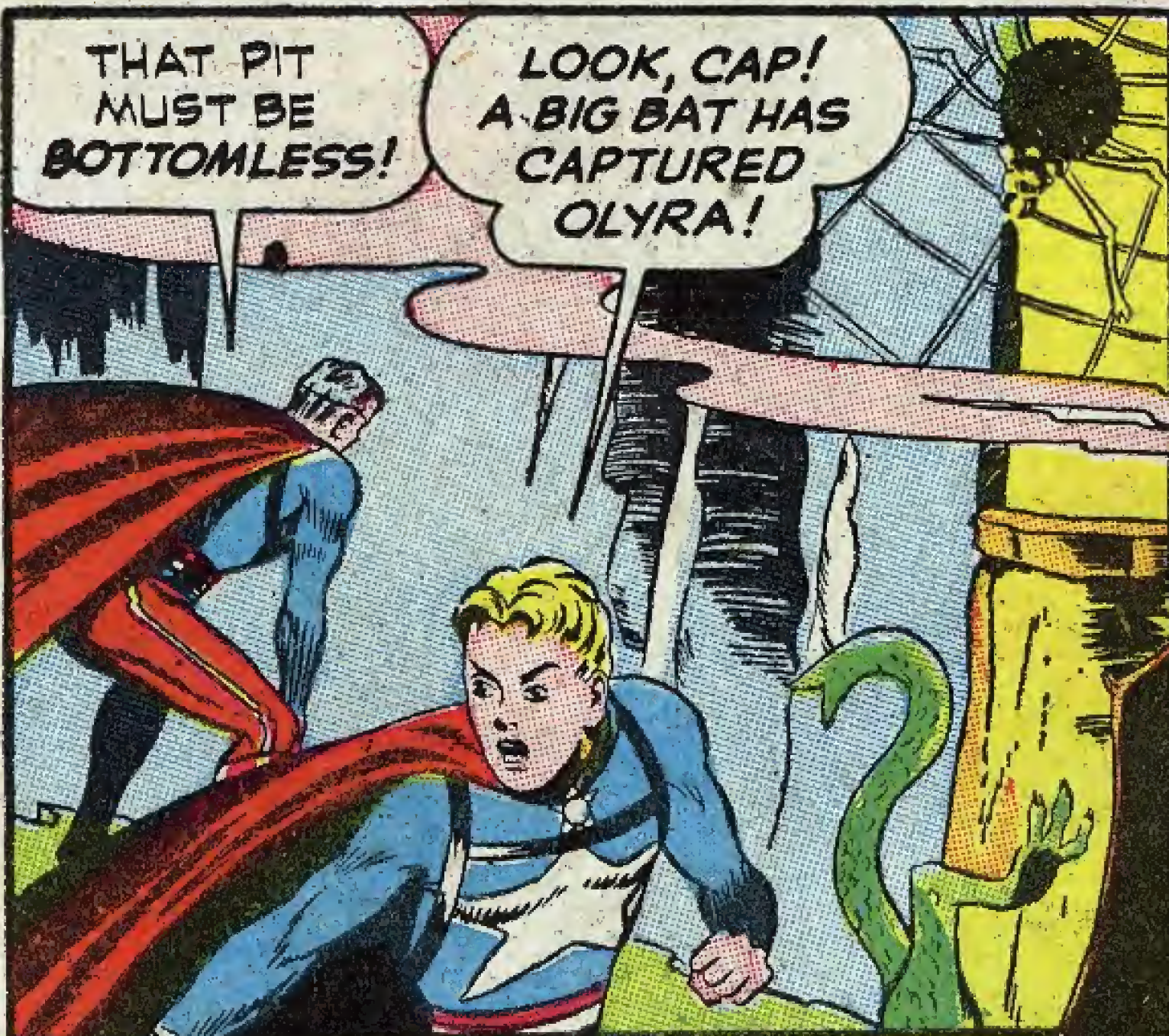
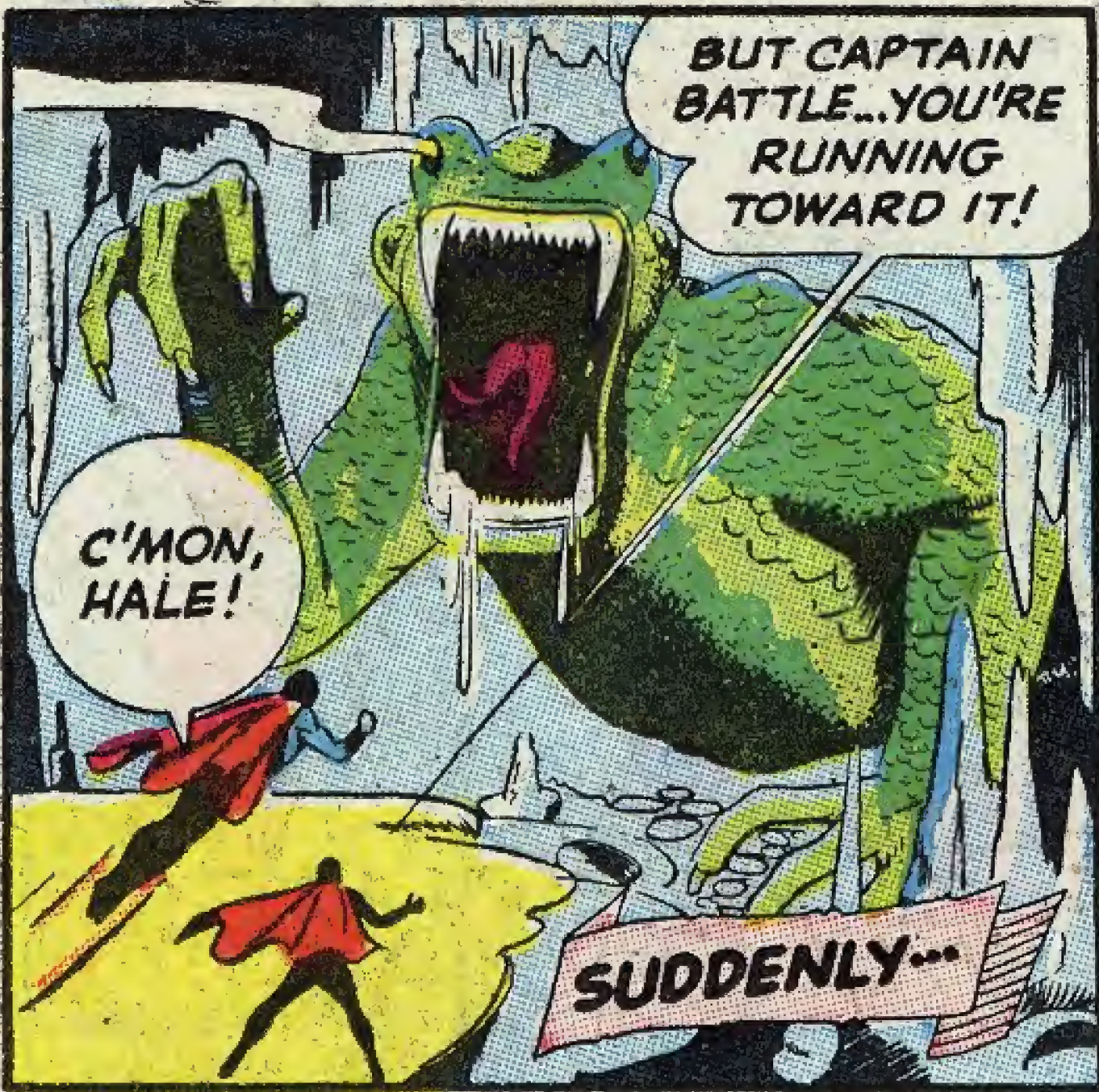
IT'S SUCKING US DOWN, DOWN...

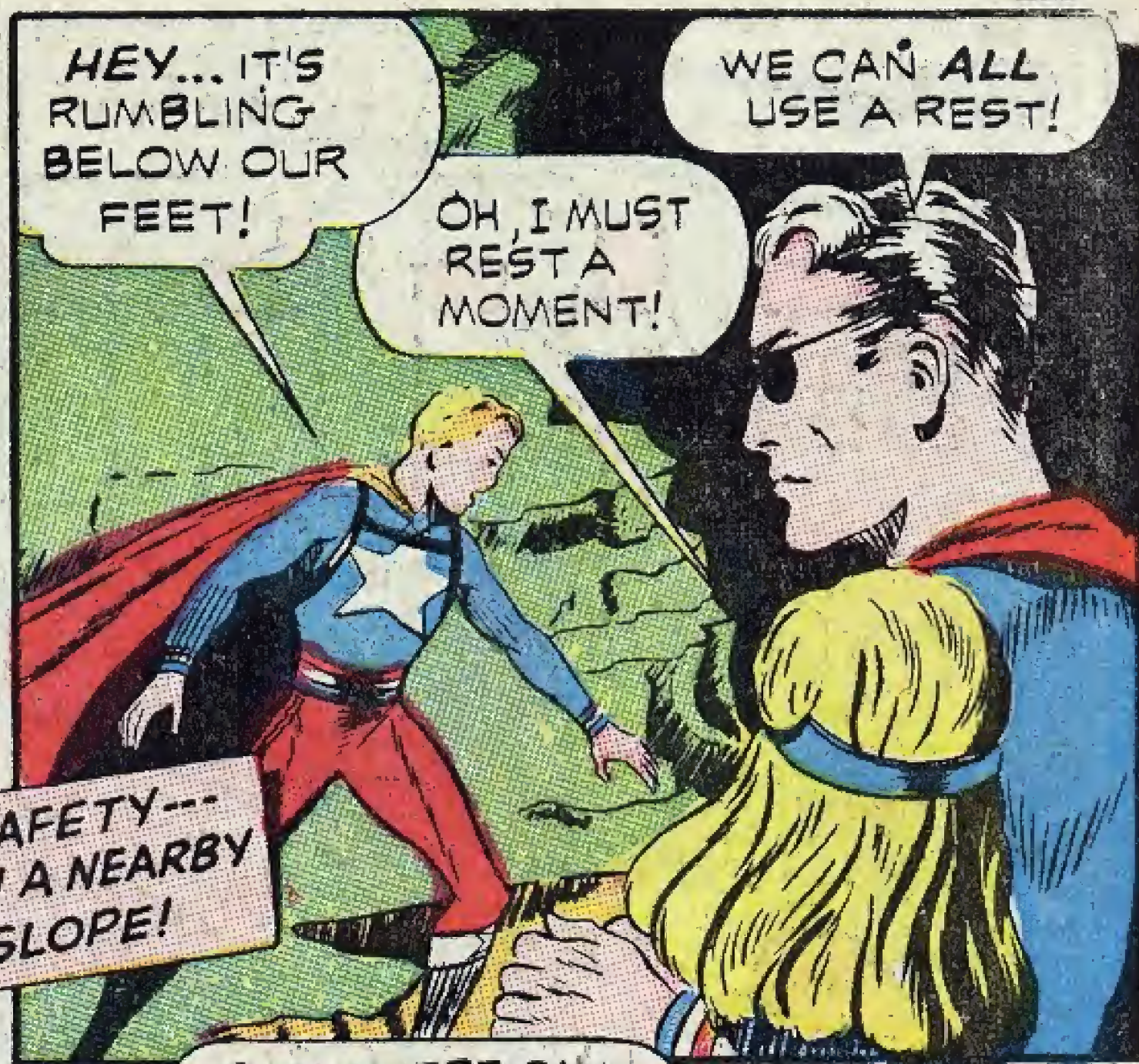
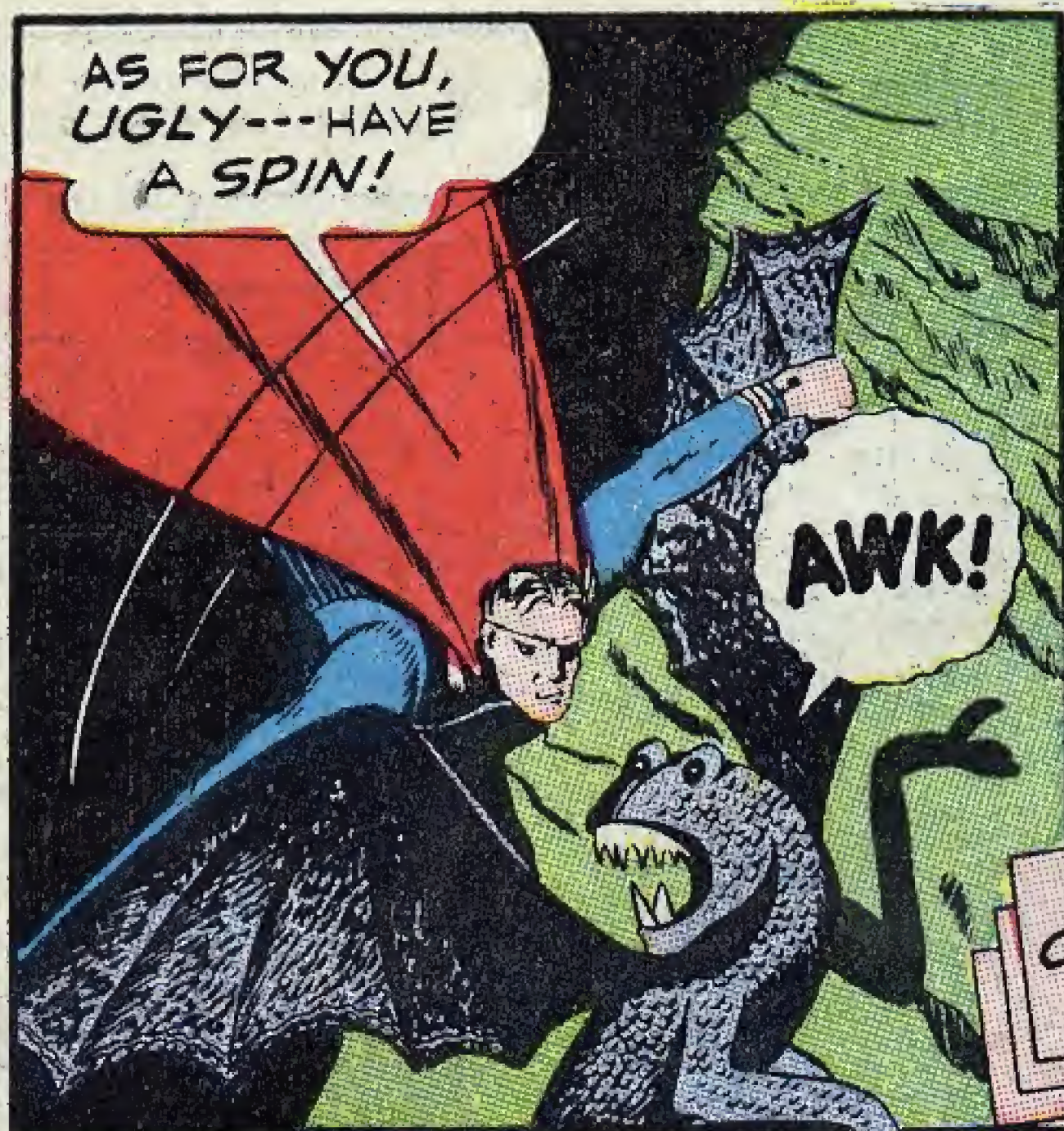


SOMEHOW WE'LL FIND A WAY OUT!

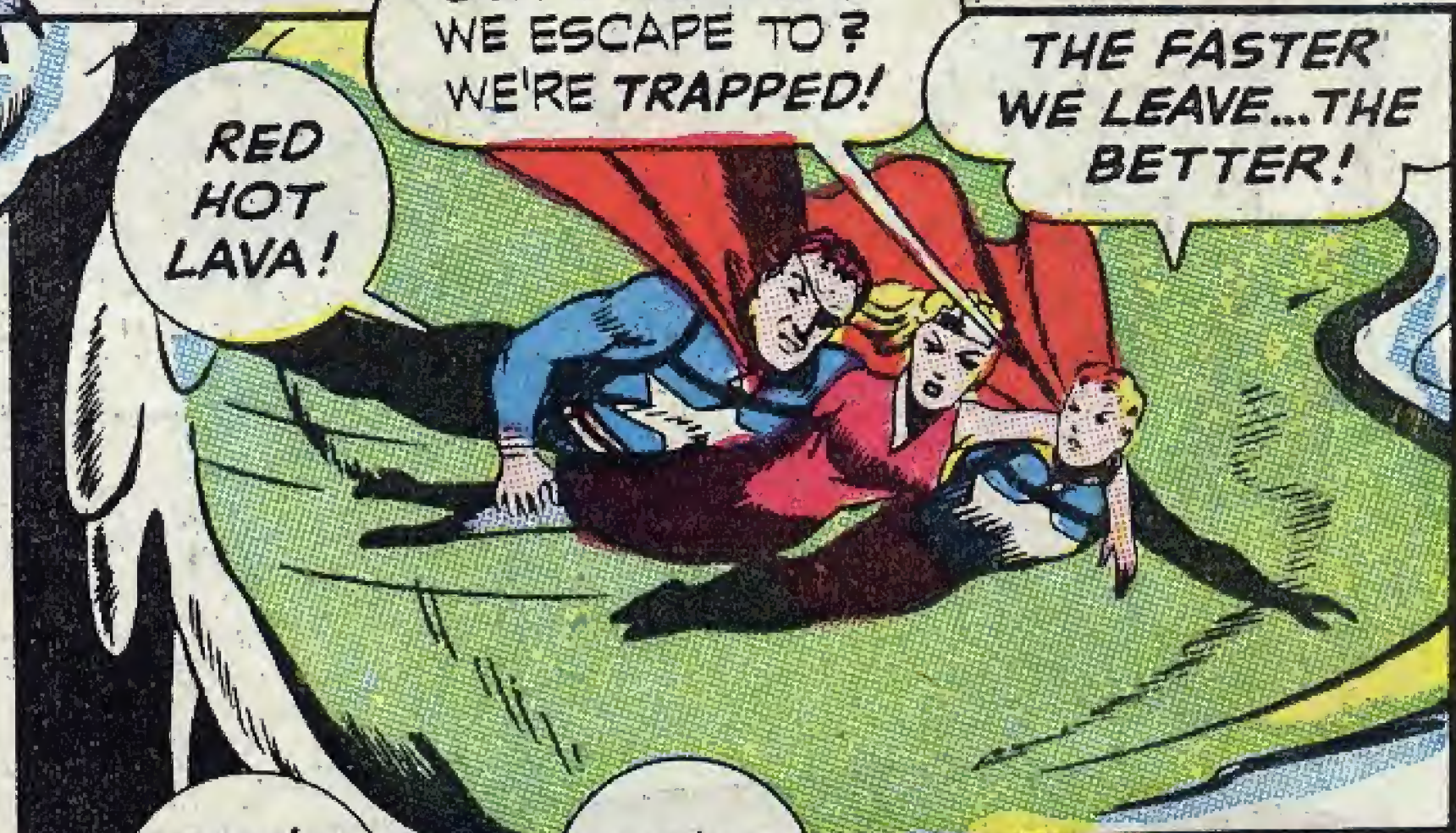
AND GET BACK ON THE TRAIL OF ALI HASSAN!







SAFETY---
ON A NEARBY
SLOPE!



CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY!

WE'RE SAFE!

AND WE'RE THE ONLY LIVING CREATURES TO GET OUT ALIVE!

BUT SUDDENLY A GREAT CRACK YAWNS OPEN, AS THE UNDERGROUND CAVERN IS SPLIT BY THE TITANIC FORCES!

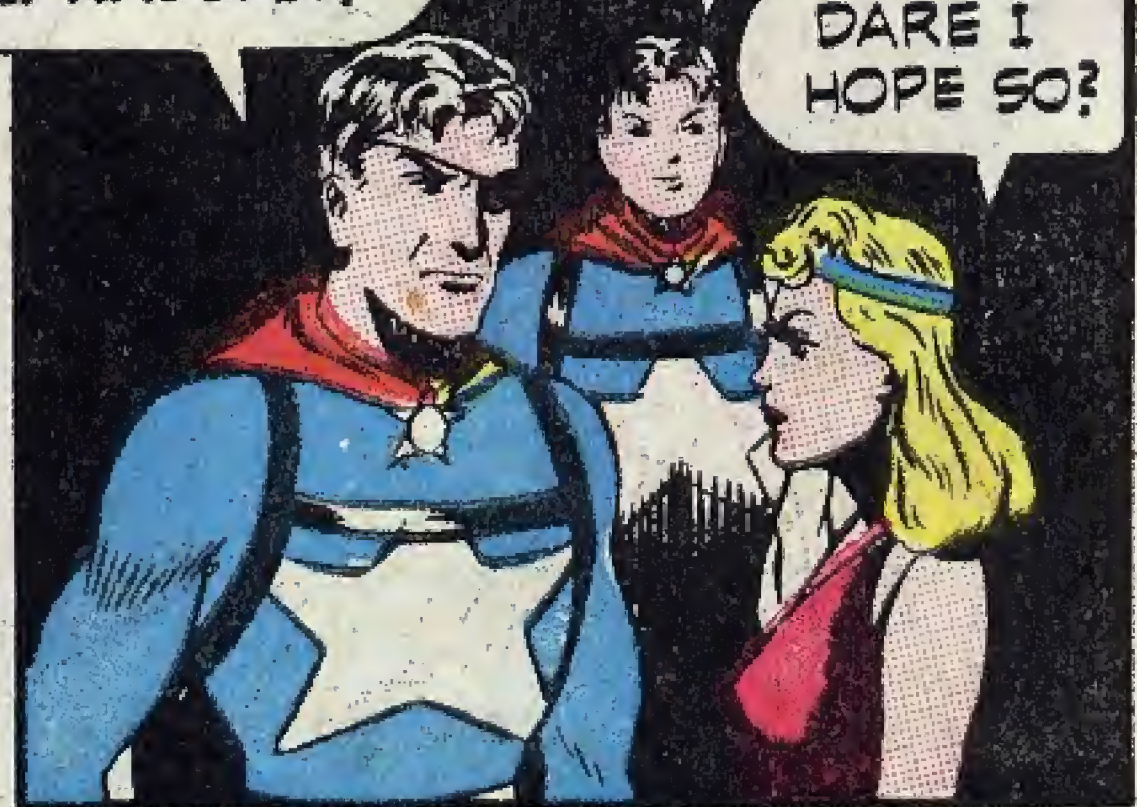
YOU'RE WITNESSING THE END OF THE STRANGE UNDERGROUND WORLD!

FREEDOM!

THAT'S OVER! NOW TO LOCATE ALI HASSAN!

WE'RE GOING TO GET YOUR DIAMOND BACK YET, OLYRA!

DARE I HOPE SO?

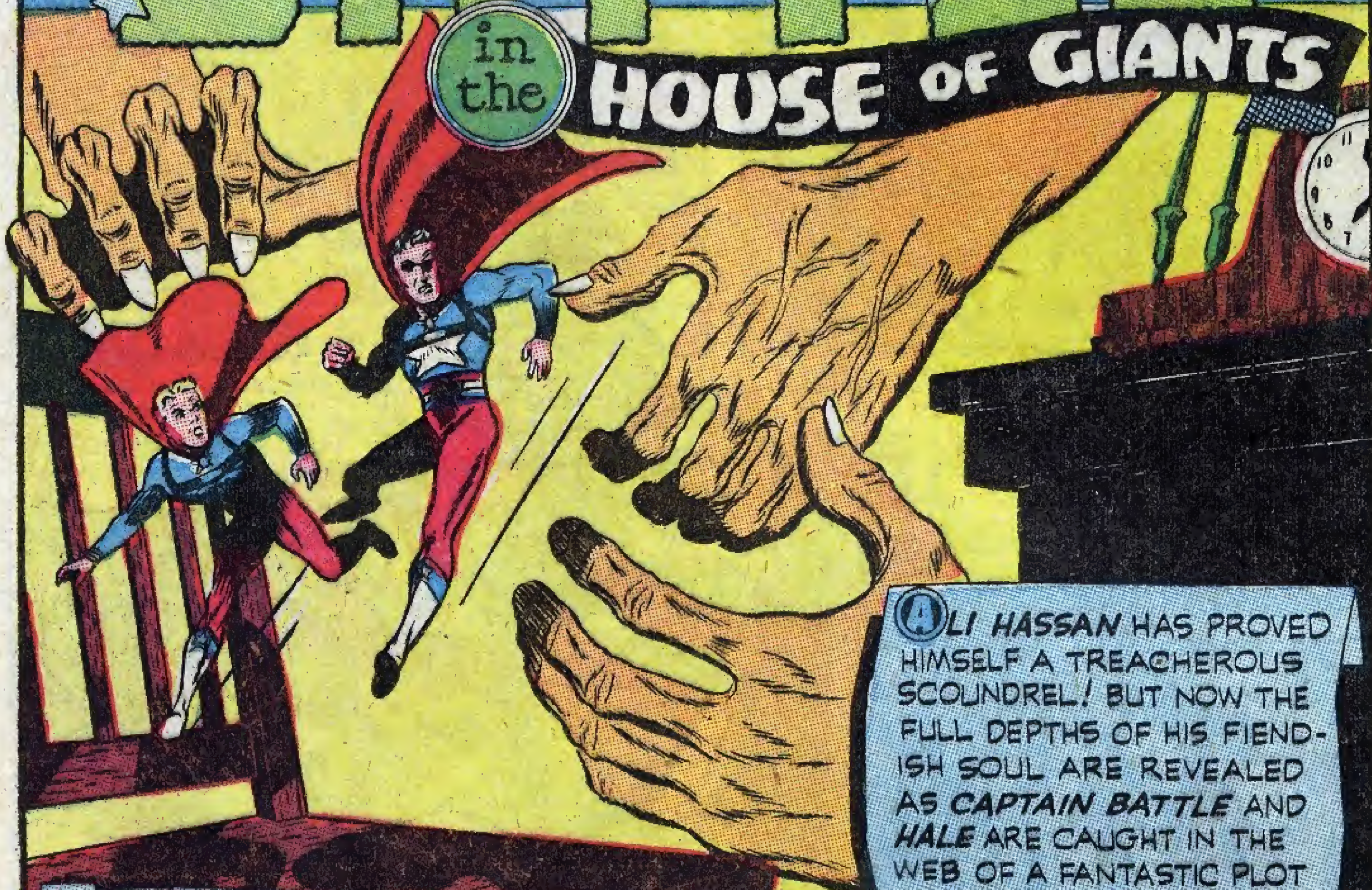


CAPTAIN

BATTLE

in
the

HOUSE OF GIANTS



ALI HASSAN HAS PROVED HIMSELF A TREACHEROUS SCOUNDREL! BUT NOW THE FULL DEPTHS OF HIS FIENDISH SOUL ARE REVEALED AS CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE ARE CAUGHT IN THE WEB OF A FANTASTIC PLOT THAT REDUCES THEM TO PYGMY SIZE!

The CURVETTESCOPE HAS REVEALED ALI HASSAN ARRIVING AT AN ANCIENT CASTLE IN TIBET, BY CAMEL CARAVAN--WHILE THE THREE FRIENDS WERE IN THE UNDERGROUND WORLD!

AND HERE WE ARE!

LOOK...THE DOOR IS OPEN!

BY LUCEFLYER EXPRESS!

ALI HASSAN THINKS WE'RE DEAD!

WHAT THE...?

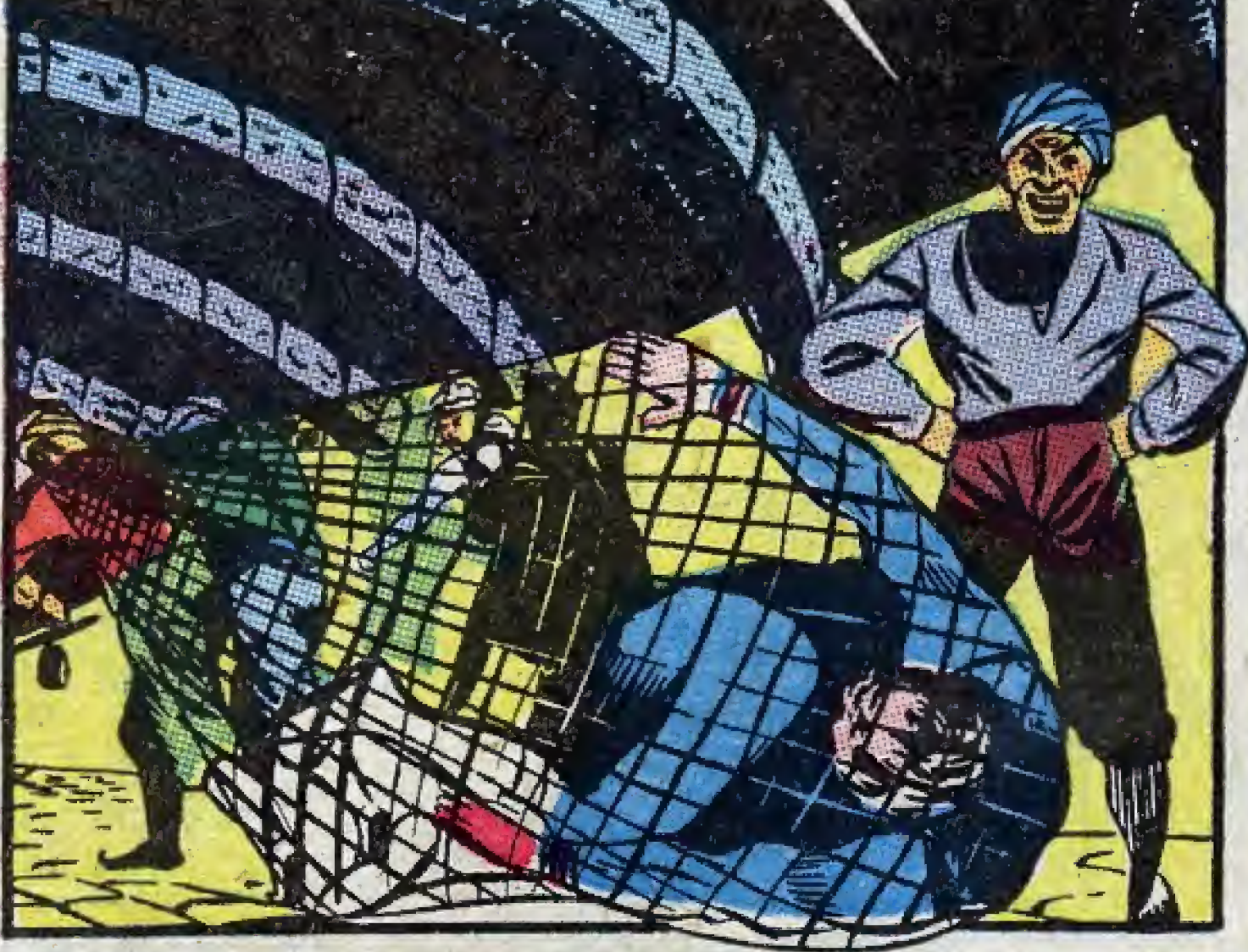
HEY--A NET!

WHAT A SURPRISE HE'S DUE FOR!

SUDDENLY...

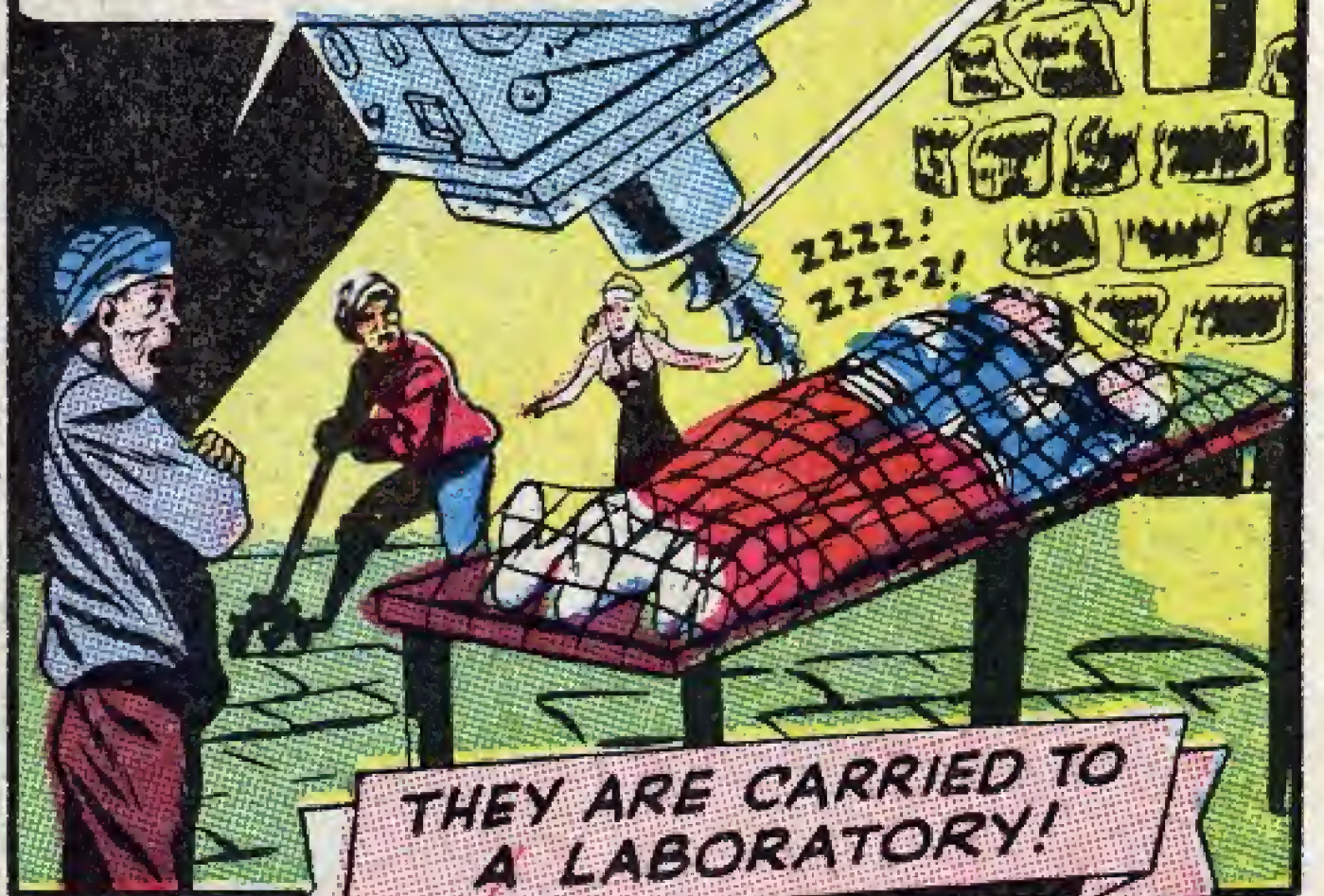


HOW WAS THAT FOR A SURPRISE, CAPTAIN BATTLE? ALI HASSAN IS NEVER CAUGHT NAPPING!



I HAVE ANOTHER SURPRISE FOR YOU! MY TIBETAN FRIENDS ARE CLEVER SCIENTISTS! LING... START THE REDUCING RAY!

OH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO THEM, YOU FIEND!



THEY ARE CARRIED TO A LABORATORY!

YOU ESCAPED THE QUICKSAND-- BUT YOU CAN'T ESCAPE THE REDUCING RAY! YOU ARE GETTING SMALLER... SMALLER... SMALLER... HO! HO! HO!

WHA...?

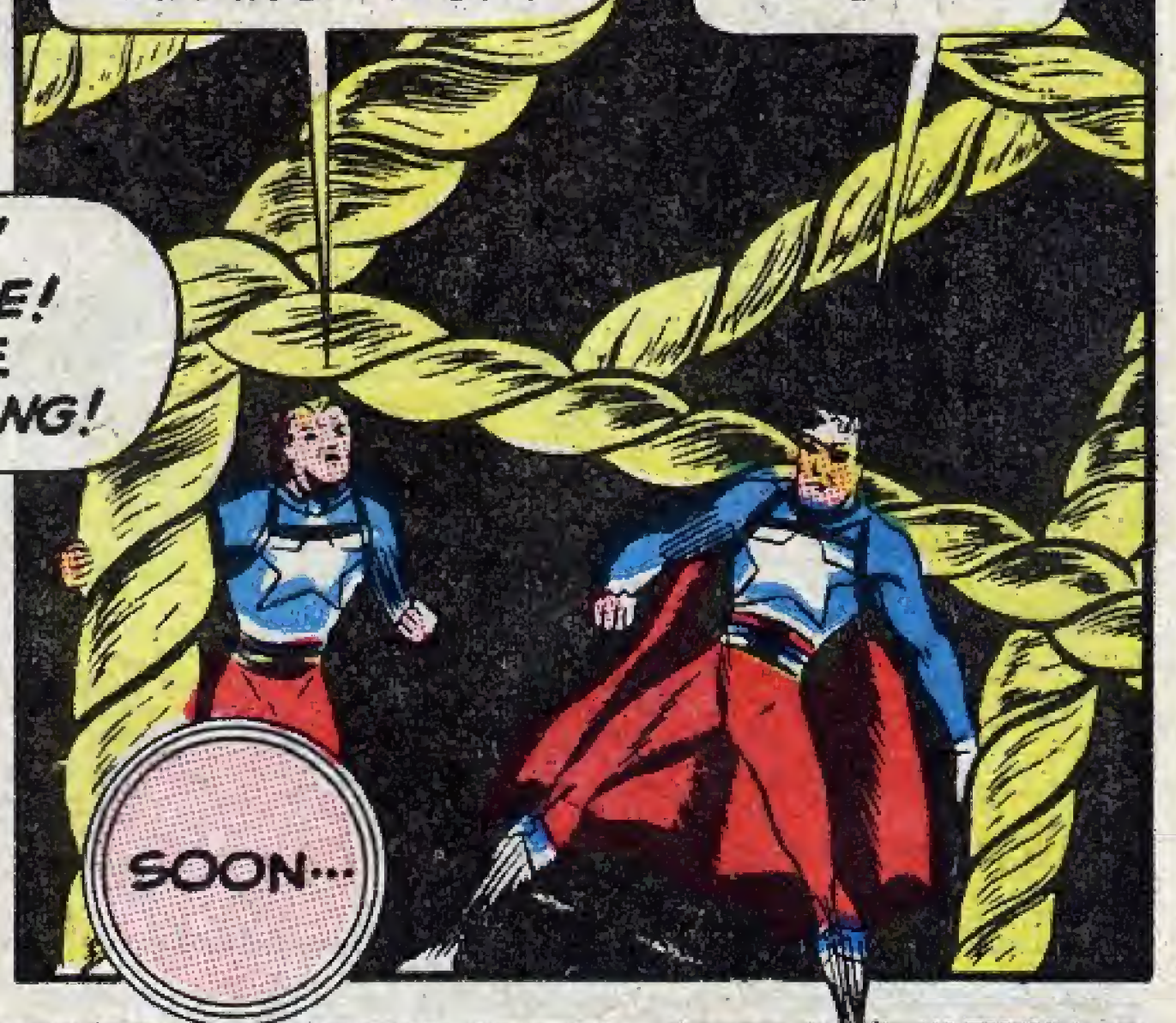
HOLY SMOKE! WE'RE SHRINKING!



HELPLESS, THE FIGHTING PAIR UNDERGO A WEIRD EXPERIENCE!

WE'VE SHRUNK TO PYGMIES ONLY AN INCH HIGH!

WELL, ANYWAY-- NOW WE CAN ESCAPE!

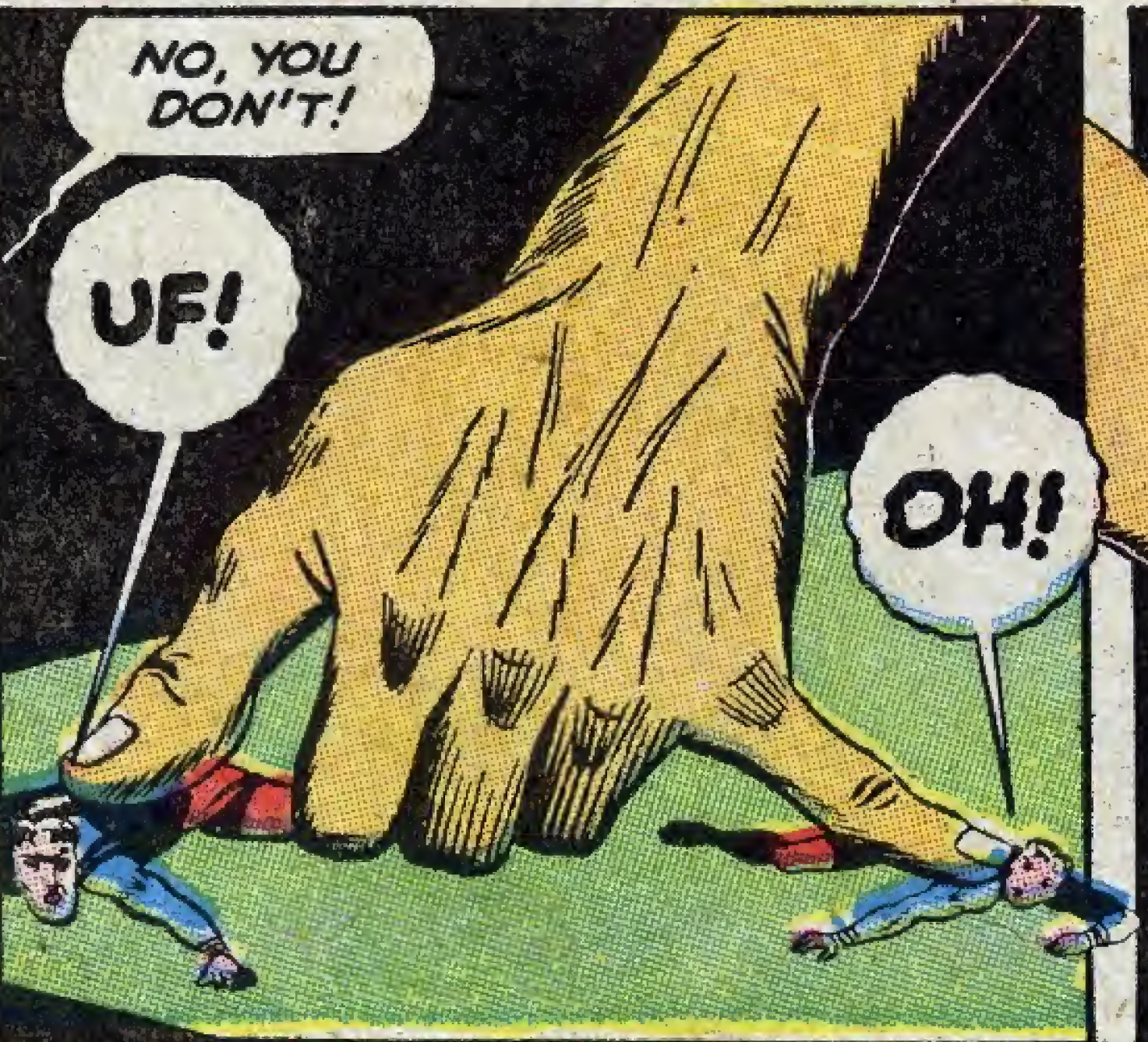


SOON...

NO, YOU DON'T!

UF!

OH!



GOSH, CAP... WE'RE SUNK! HE'S LIKE A GIANT A MILE HIGH TO US NOW!

THE GIANT HAND OF ALI HASSAN SWEEPS THEM INTO THE AIR!



A GIANT FACE LEERS AT THE TWO MITES!

HELLO, SHRIMPS! NOW, WITH ONE CRUNCH OF MY HANDS-- I'LL SQUASH YOU TO PULP! HO! HO!! HO!!!

GOOD THING OUR REDUCED LUCEFLYERS WORK JUST AS GOOD AS BEFORE!

UGH! THAT WAS A TIGHT SQUEEZE!

OW!

UNDAUNTED BY THEIR TINY SIZE, THE TWIN BATTLERS ATTACK THEIR GIANT ENEMY!

I CAN STILL POKE YOU IN THE EYE, ALI HASSAN!

BOP!

WHAT A RUBBER NOSE, ALI!

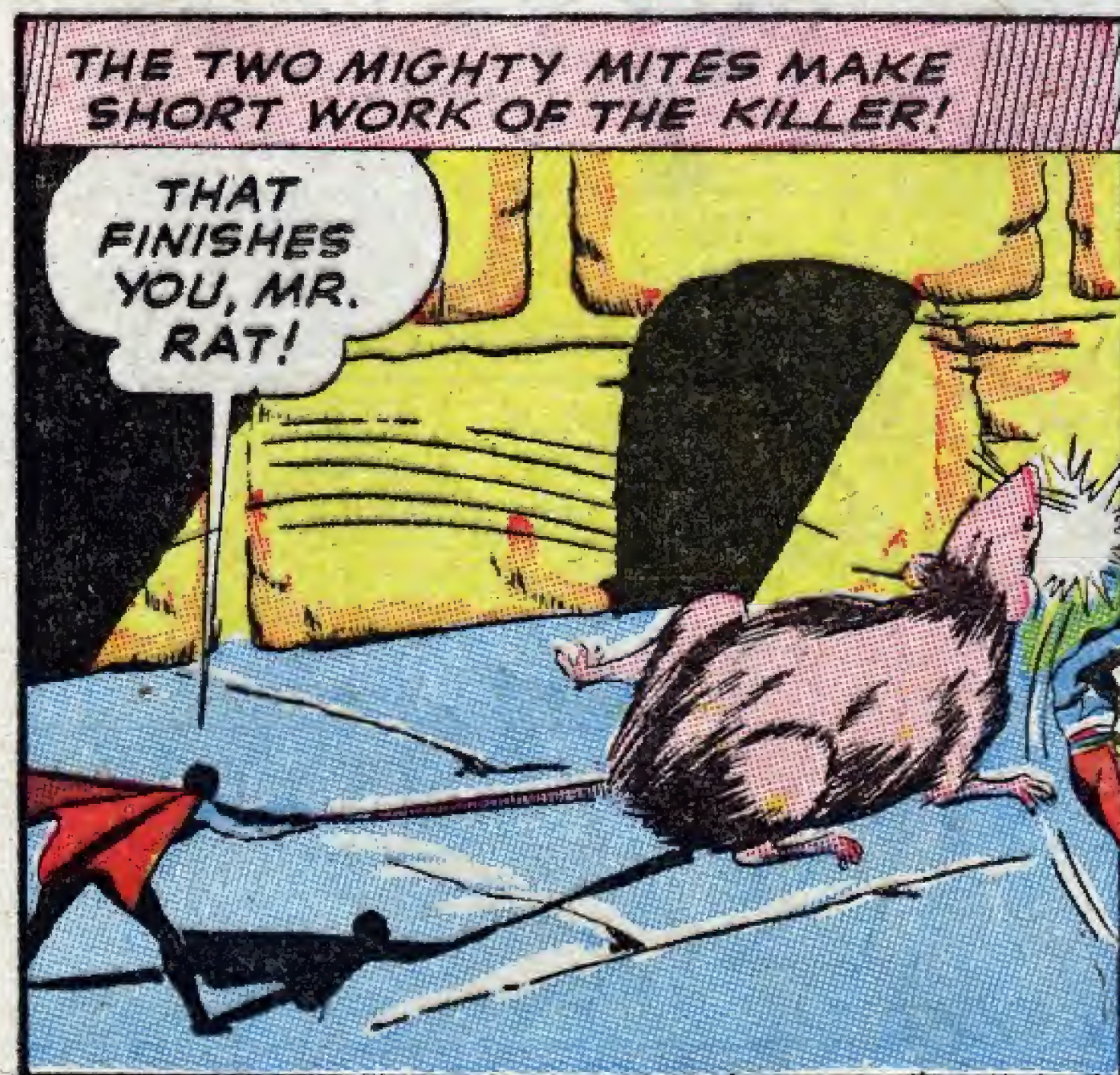
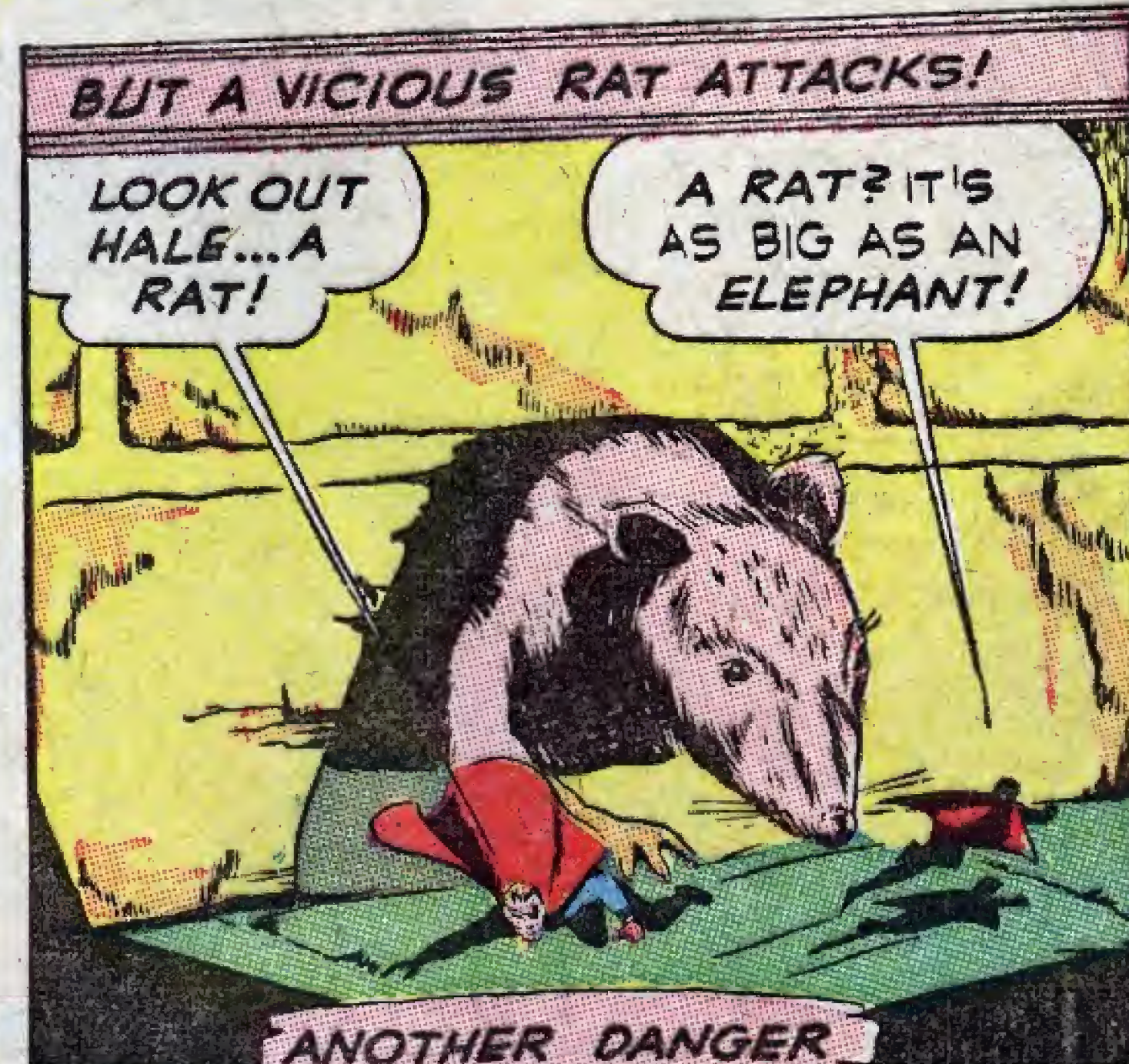
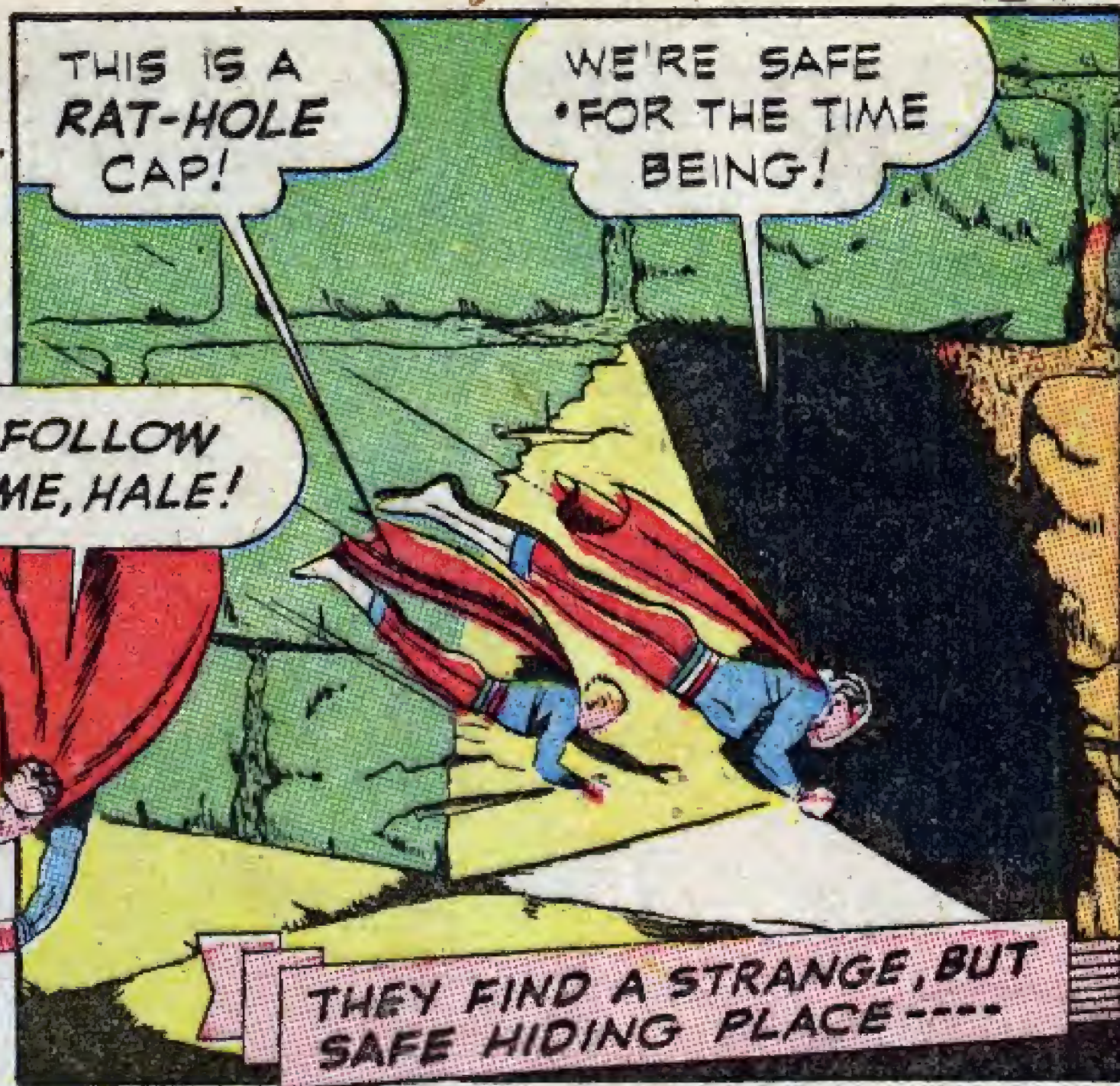
BUT WITH A SWOOP OF HIS HUGE HAND, ALI HASSAN CATCHES HALE!

PUNCH MY NOSE, WILL YOU--YOU LITTLE SCUM? I'LL CRUSH YOU!

OH!

HELP!

GOTTA SAVE HALE! MAYBE THIS STONE POT WILL DO THE TRICK!



THE CAT
POUNCES...

LOOK
OUT... A
CAT!

THINKS
WE'RE
MICE, EH?
IS HE
FOOLED!

BUT ALI HASSAN HAS BEEN
SEARCHING RELENTLESSLY...

LOOK, THE CAT
FOUND THEM!
AFTER THEM!
STAMP THEM
FLAT!

ULP!

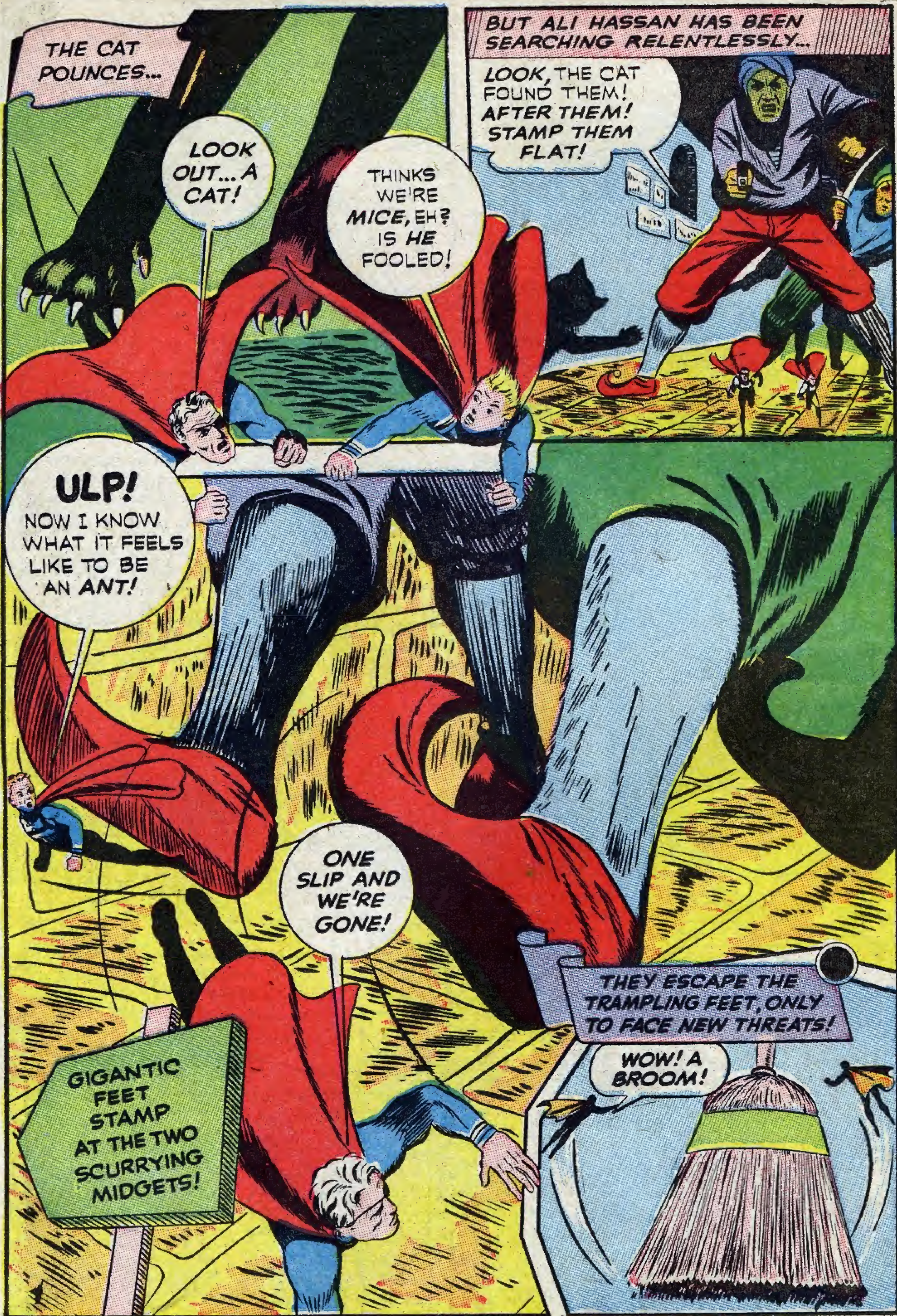
NOW I KNOW
WHAT IT FEELS
LIKE TO BE
AN ANT!

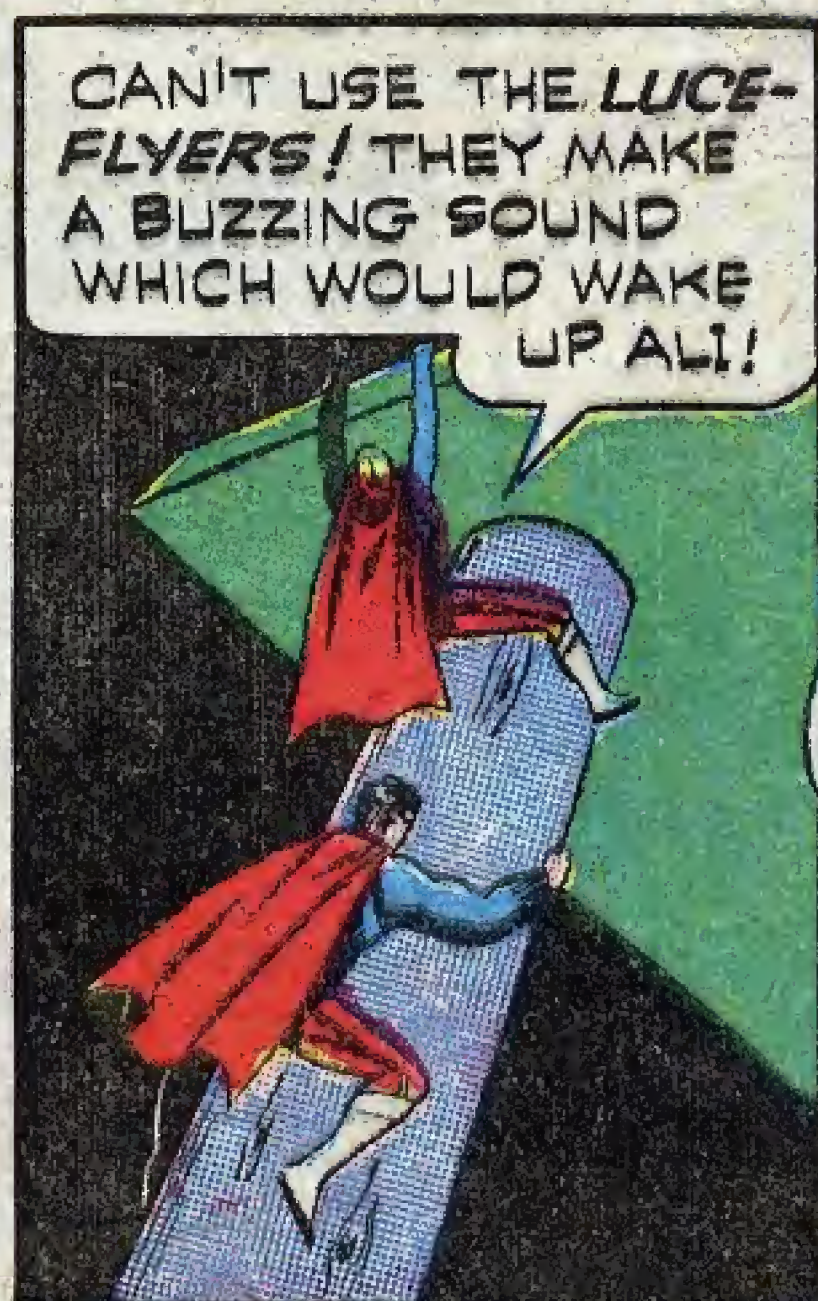
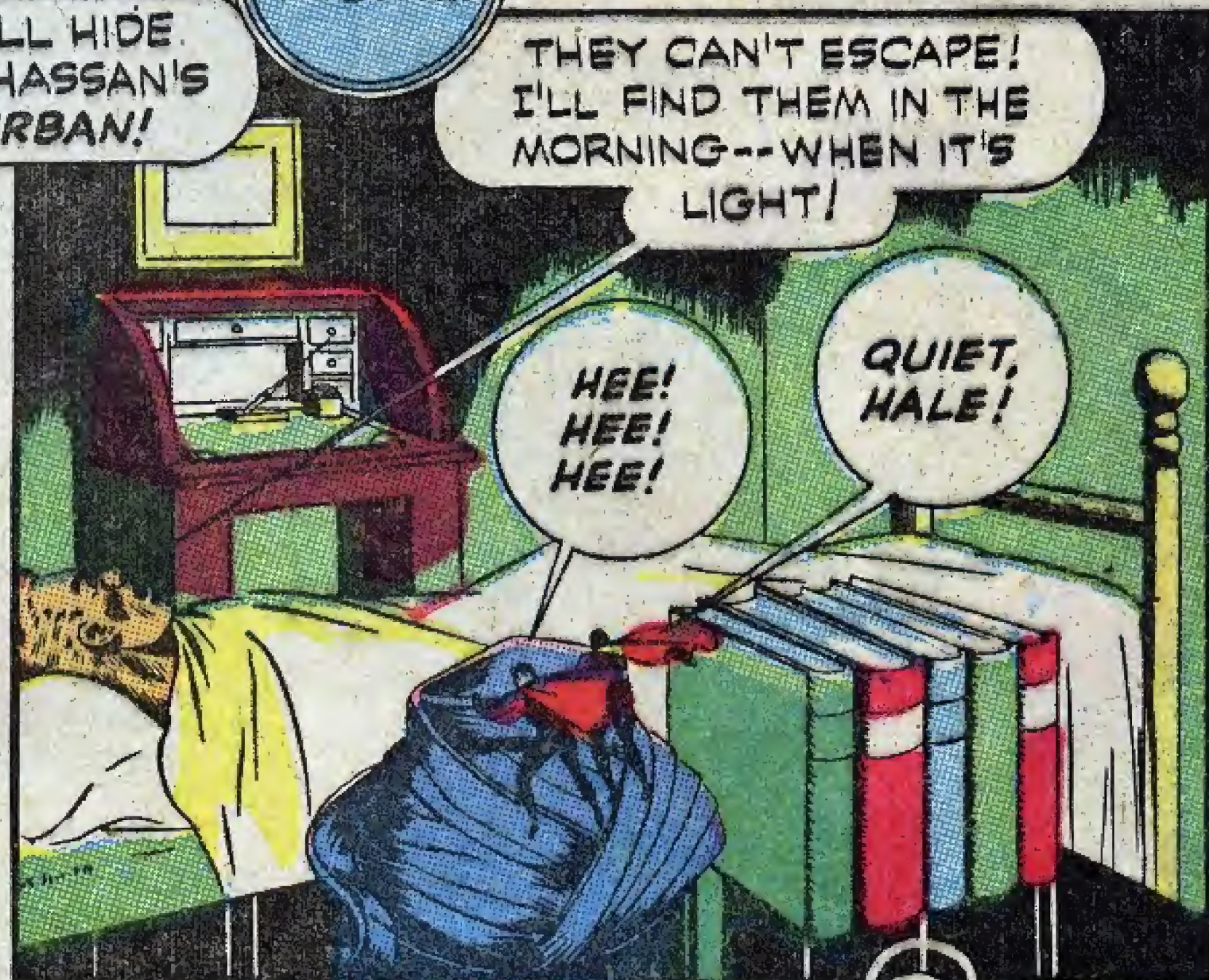
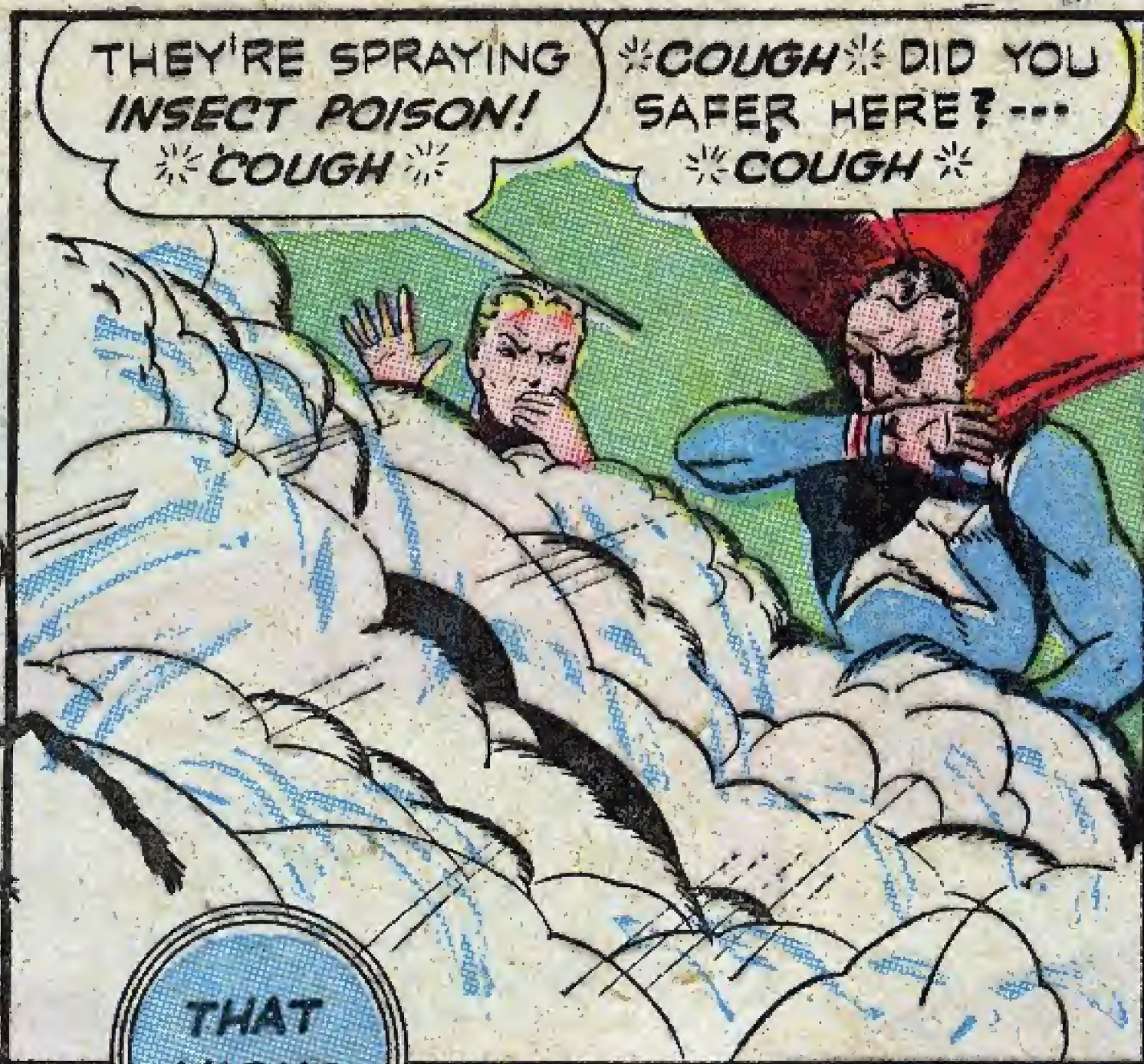
ONE
SLIP AND
WE'RE
GONE!

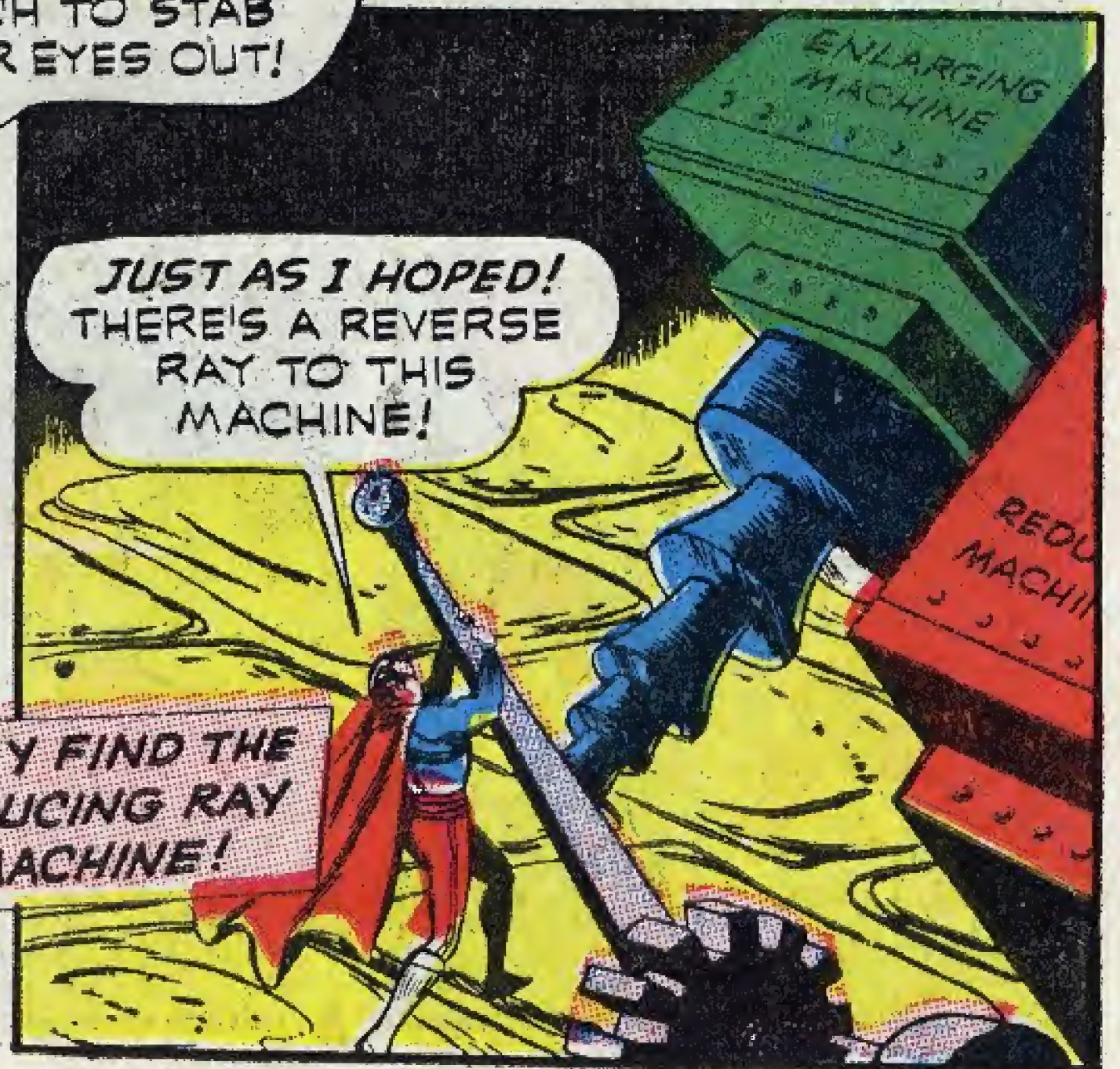
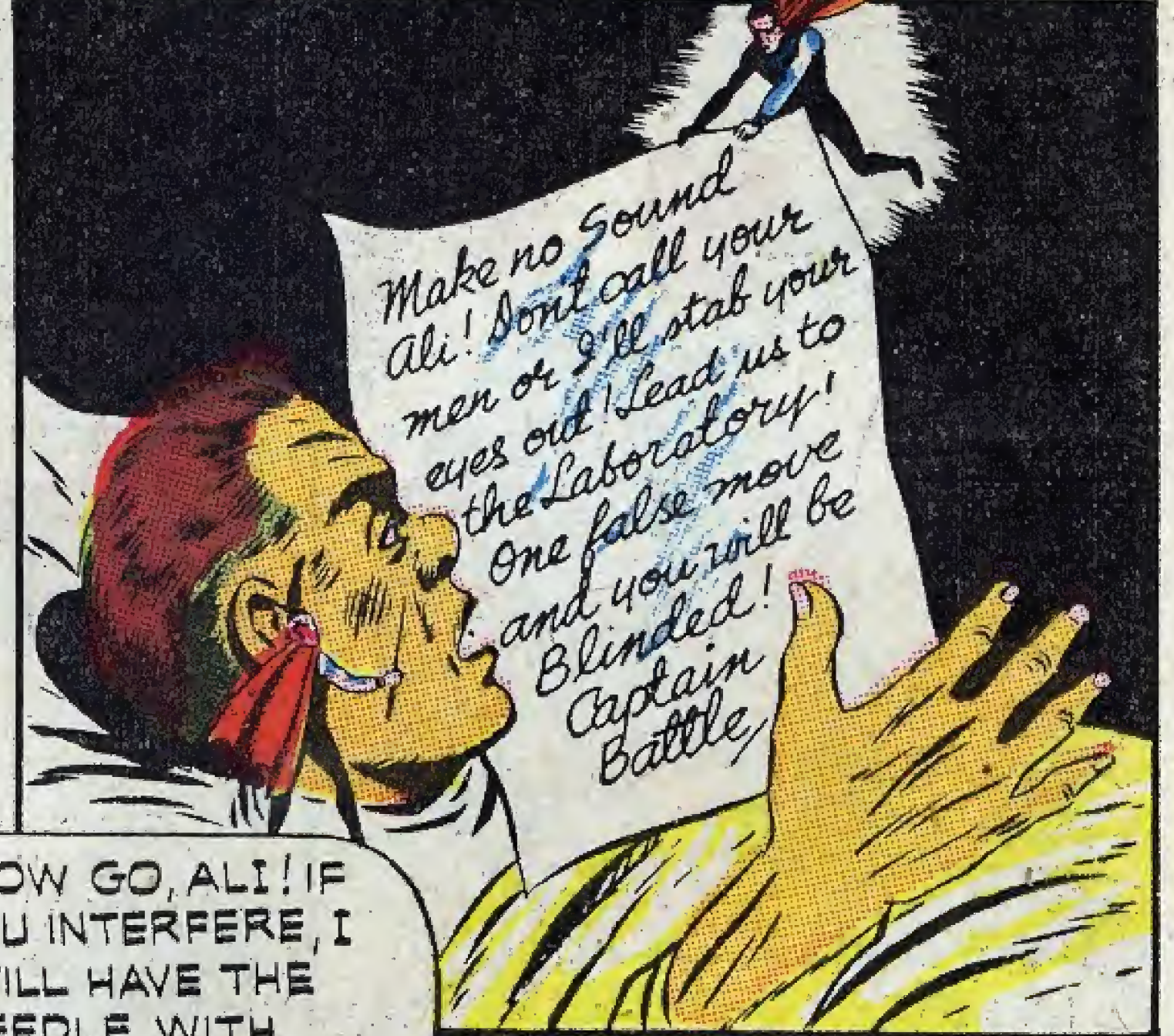
GIGANTIC
FEET
STAMP
AT THE TWO
SCURRYING
MIDGETS!

THEY ESCAPE THE
TRAMPLING FEET, ONLY
TO FACE NEW THREATS!

WOW! A
BROOM!







UNDER THE ENLARGING RAY--
HALE REGAINS HIS NORMAL SIZE!



NOW FOR YOU, CAP!
GOSH--YOU'RE LIKE
A LITTLE INSECT!

I FEEL LIKE
ONE, TOO!
HURRY,
HALE!



BUT MEANWHILE, REALIZING HE
HAS ONCE AGAIN FAILED TO END
THE CAREER OF THE MIGHTY
CAPTAIN BATTLE...ALI FLEES!

HURRY, WE MUST
FLEE! CAPTAIN BATTLE
IS BACK TO NOR-
MAL SIZE!

ALLAH!
ALLAH!!
MAKE
HASTE!



SOON--

HE
GOT
AWAY!

OFF TO BAGDAD,
HALE! WE'RE NOT
LICKED YET!

RIGHT,
CAP!

BUT MY MISSION IS
DONE, HA! HA! HA! I
RETURN TO BAGDAD,
MY HOME--WITH THE
KONOOR DIAMOND
AND THE LOVELY
OLYRA AS A GIFT
TO THE EMPEROR!

THERE'S
A NOTE!

CAPTAIN BATTLE
AND HALE ARRIVE
TOO LATE!

BEFORE YOU FINISH
READING THIS, I WILL
BE IN BAGDAD,
PRESENTING THE
KONOOR DIAMOND
TO THE EMPEROR!
PASHA GOLU! YOU
HAVE LOST CAPTAIN
BATTLE!
*The Thief
of Bagdad*



Captain BATTLE

in the
MAGIC
SPELL
of the
ARABIAN
NIGHTS!

DETERMINED TO RESCUE OLYRA
AND RECOVER THE KONOR DIA-
MOND...CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE
INVADE THE VERY STRONGHOLD
OF ALI HASSAN! THEY DESCEND
OVER BAGDAD...ANCIENT, MYSTER-
IOUS HOME OF MAGIC!

AT THAT MOMENT, ALI
HASSAN GAZES INTO
A MAGIC CRYSTAL

CAPTAIN BATTLE
AND HALE ARE
COMING,
EMPEROR!

THEY WANT
THE KONOR
DIAMOND THAT
YOU HAVE BROUGHT
ME? TRAP THEM!

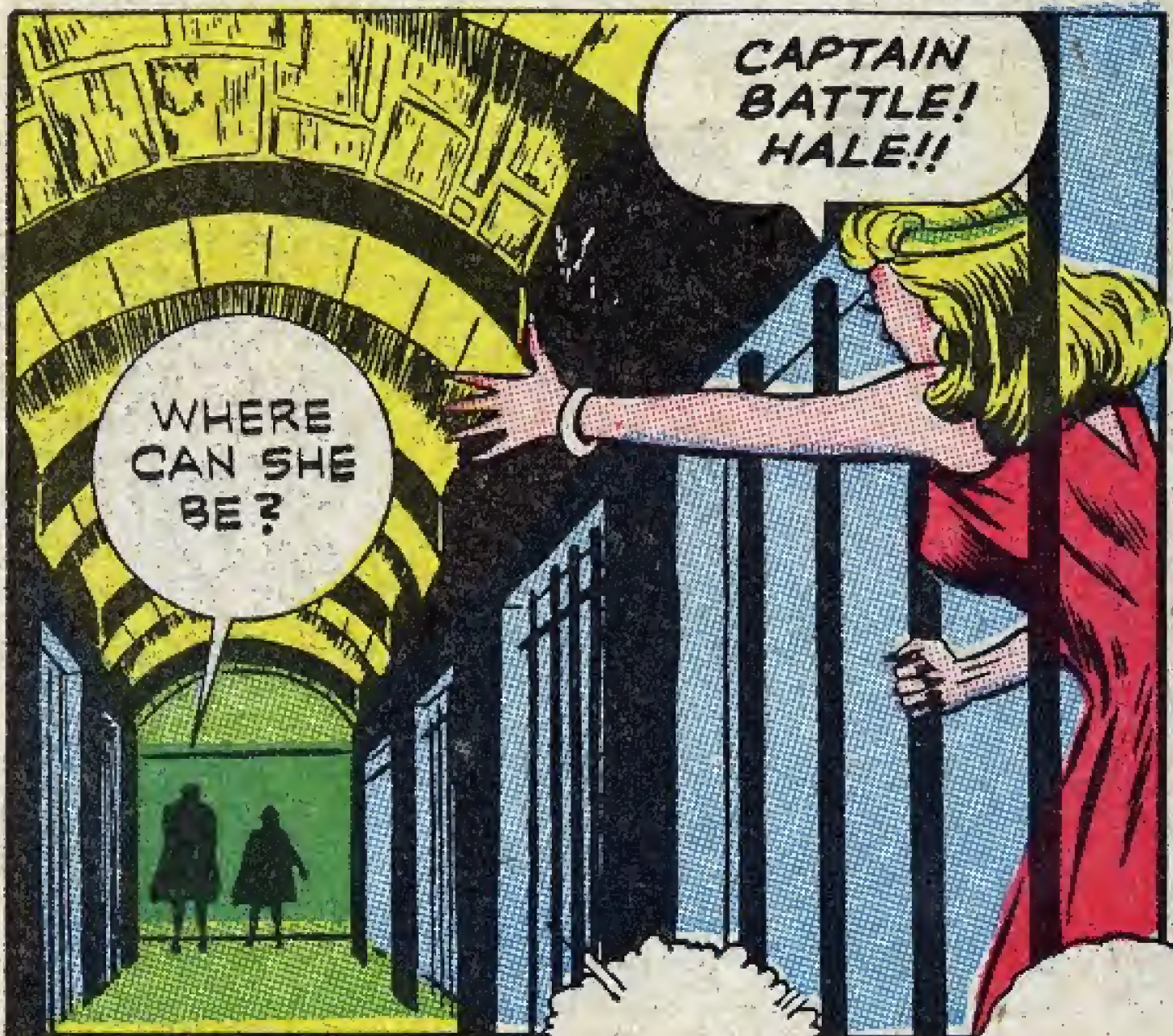
AT THE PALACE
OF EMPEROR
PASHA GOLU--

NO NOISE,
HALE! WE'LL
FIND WHERE
OLYRA IS
IMPRISONED
FIRST!

BAGDAD! DO YOU
SUPPOSE THERE'S
REALLY MAGIC
PRACTICED HERE,
CAP?

WHO
KNOWS?

THE SEARCH LEADS TO DANK DUNGEONS...



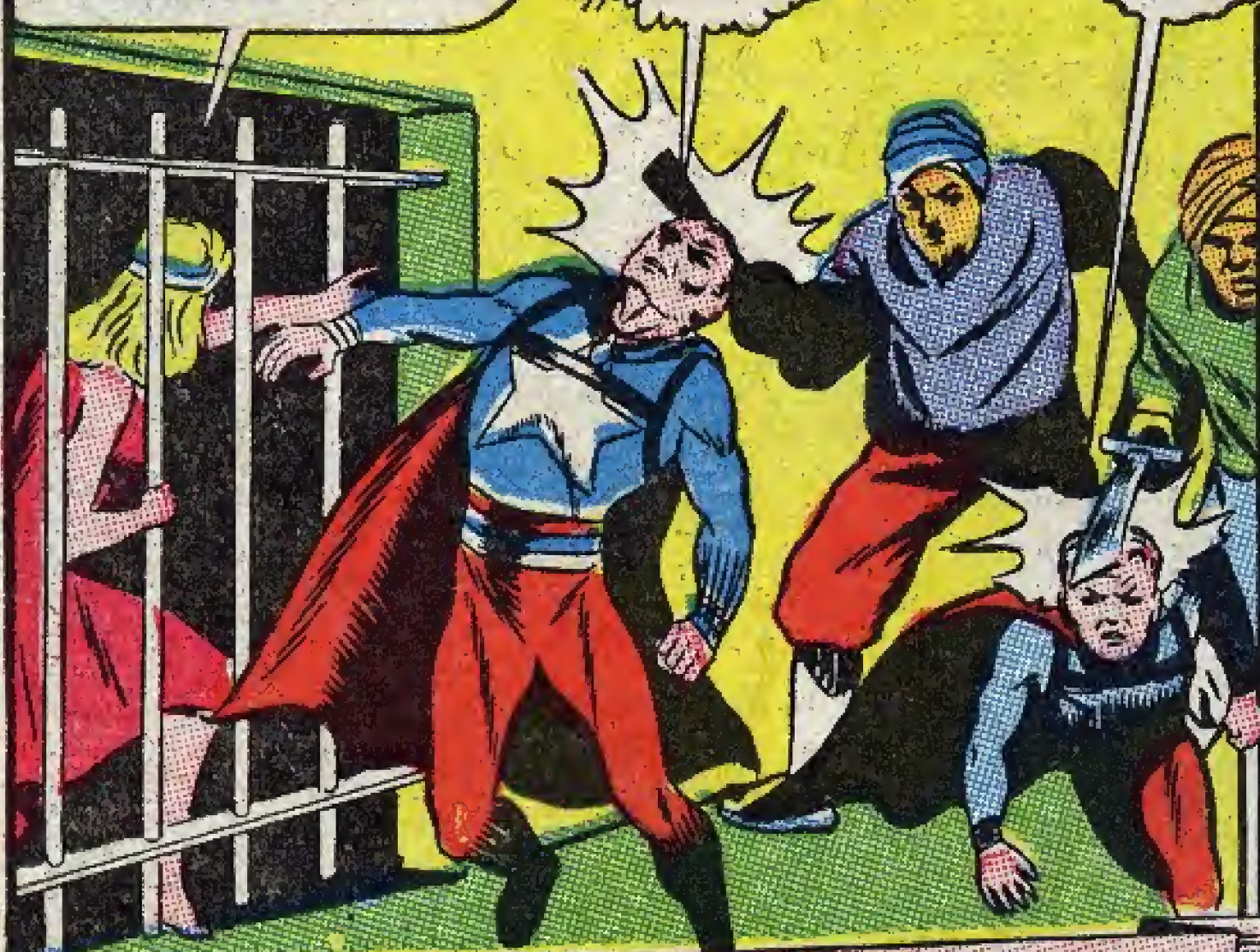
WHERE CAN SHE BE?

CAPTAIN BATTLE!
HALE!!

UG!

AHH!!

LOOK OUT
BEHIND YOU!



MOMENTARILY STUNNED, ALI HASSAN REMOVES THEIR LUCEFLYERS!

THESE LUCEFLYERS ARE POTENT AMERICAN MAGIC, SIRE! WITHOUT THEM--- CAPTAIN BATTLE AND HALE ARE HELPLESS!

I WILL KEEP THIS AMERICAN MAGIC!



SHHH...WE'VE COME TO RESCUE YOU!

NO ONE KNOWS WE'RE HERE!

I SAW YOU COMING IN MY MAGIC CRYSTAL! YOU ARE HELPLESS AGAINST MAGIC-- AND AGAINST THE CUNNING OF ALI HASSAN! HA! HA!!



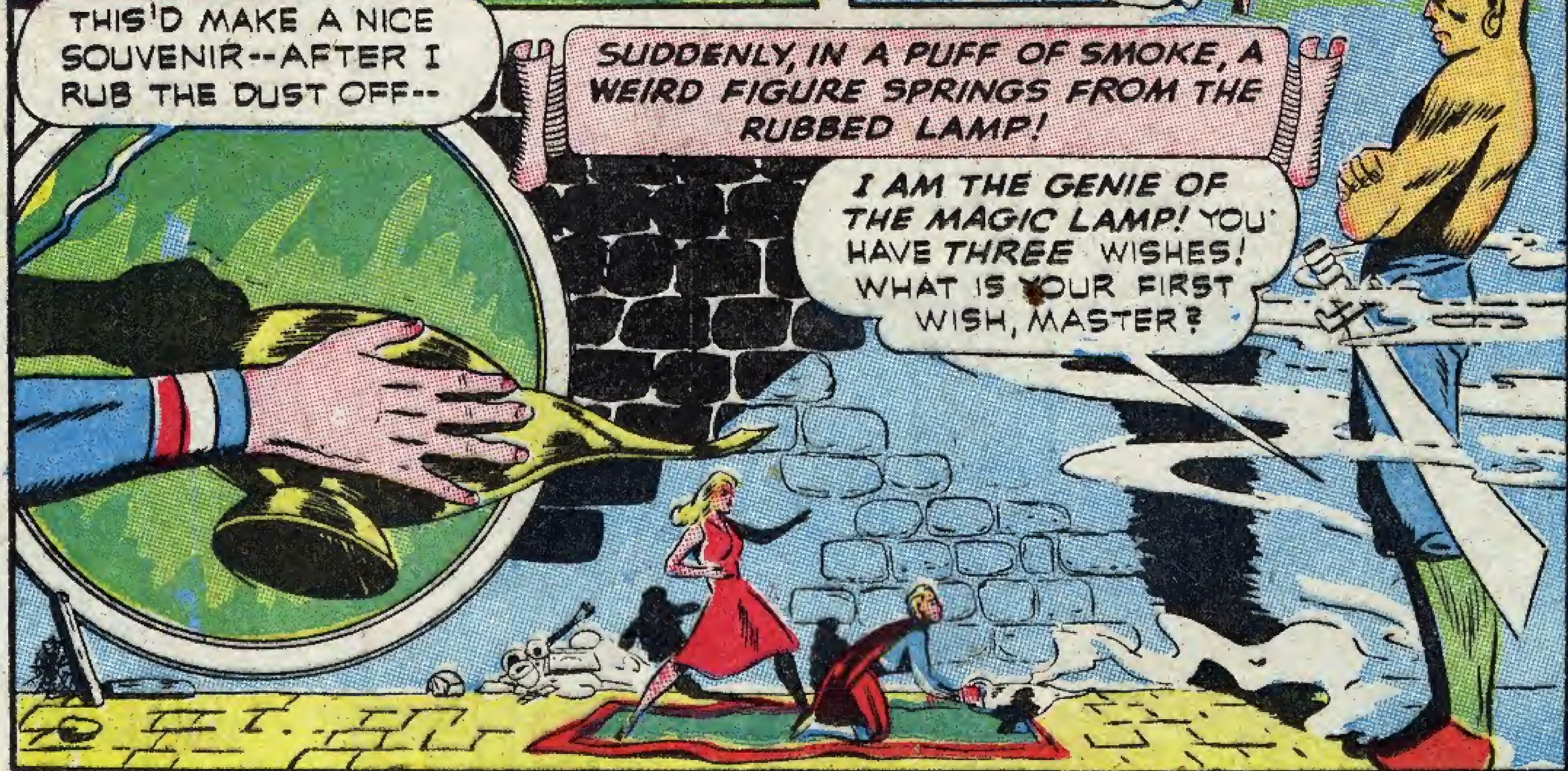
HALE IS PUT IN THE CELL WITH OLYRA!

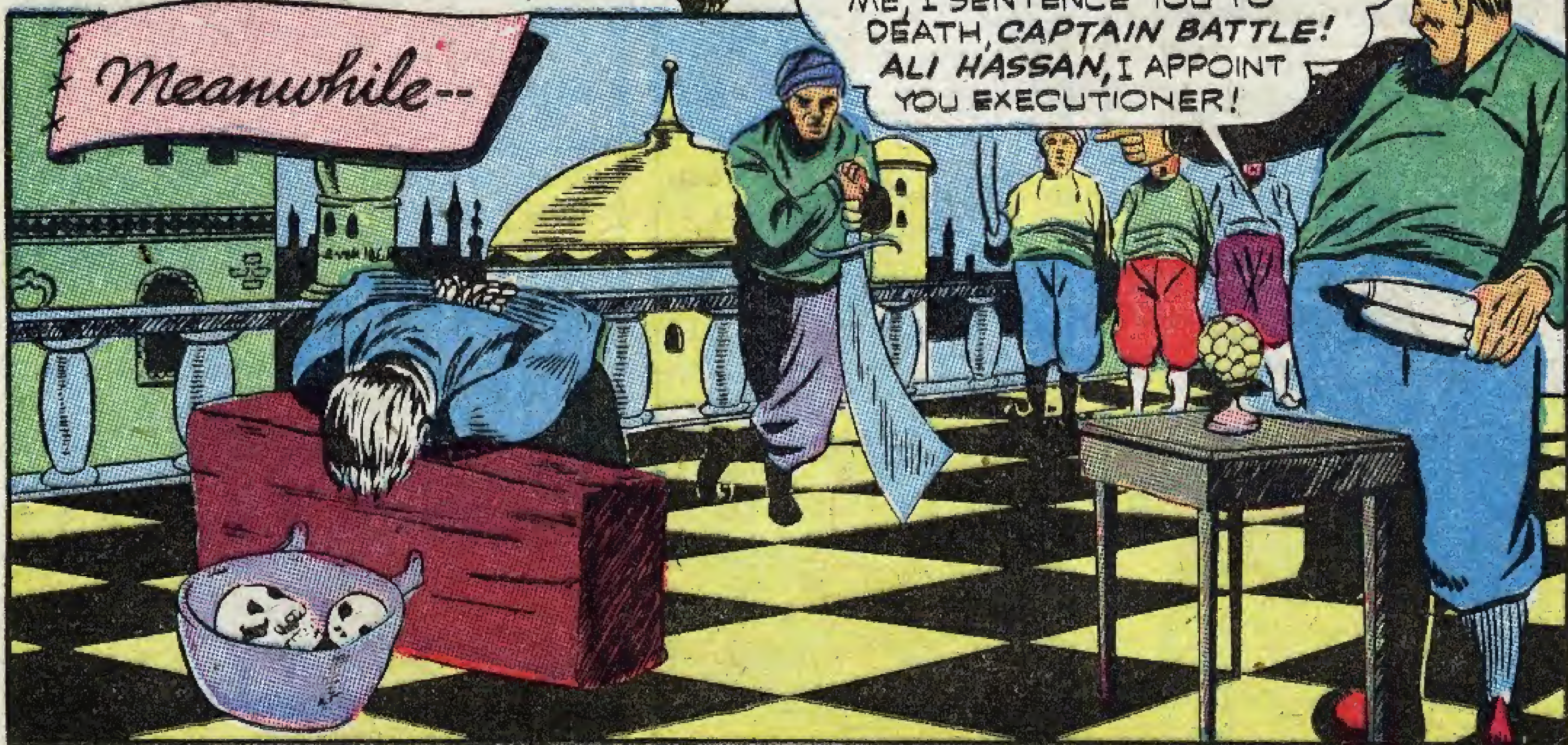
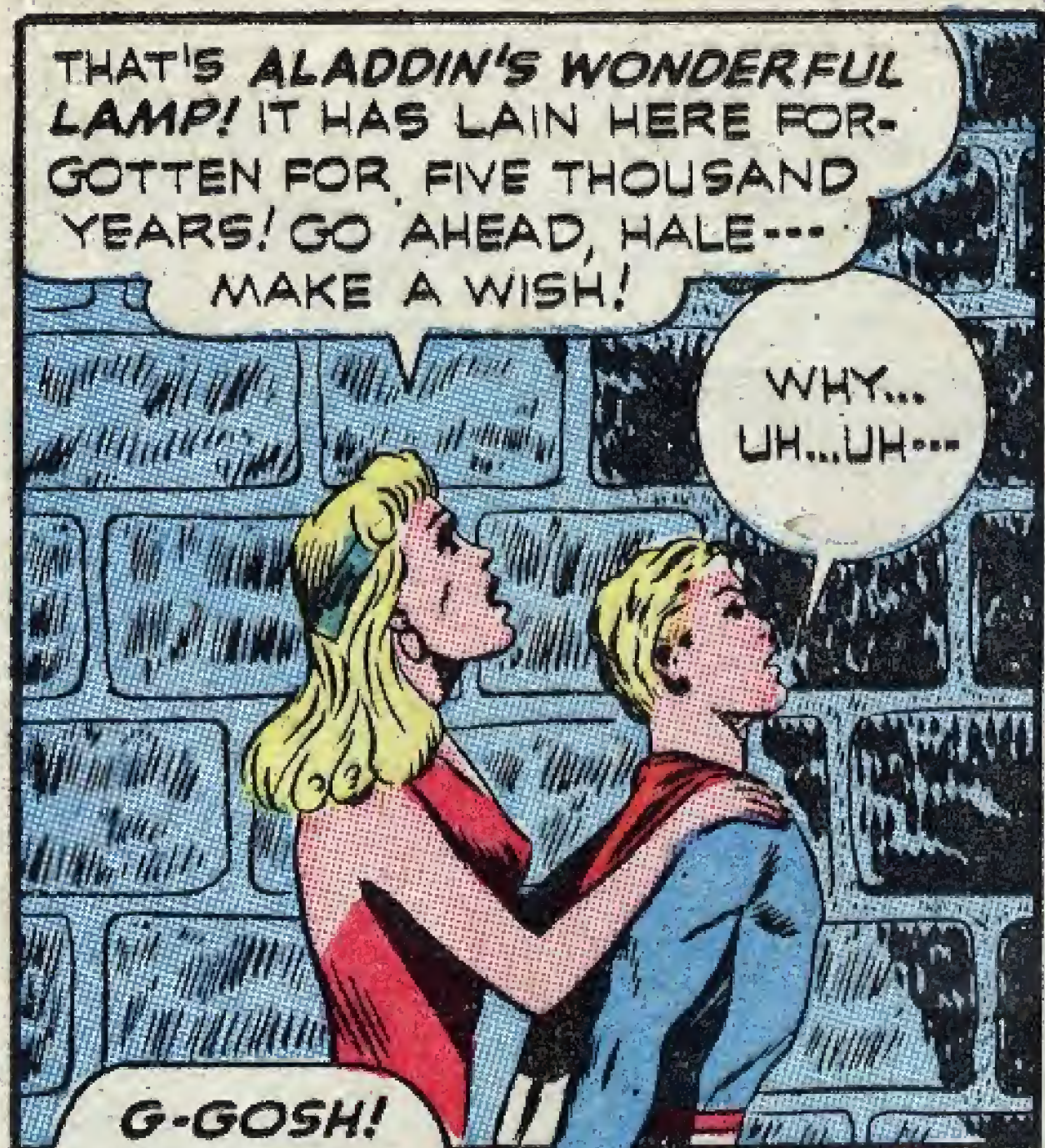
WE WILL DISPATCH THE BIG ONE FIRST, EMPEROR--AS HE IS MOST DANGEROUS!

HE SHALL DIE!



HALE AND OLYRA ARE ALONE...





THE MURDEROUS THIEF OF BAGDAD SWINGS HIS AXE!

HO! HO! OHH!! OFF GOES CAPTAIN BATTLE'S HEAD!

HALE ARRIVES ON THE MAGIC CARPET!

WE'RE TOO LATE TO SAVE CAPTAIN BATTLE!

MAYBE NOT---

WHAT IS YOUR SECOND WISH, MASTER?

HO! HO! HO!! DIE, CAPTAIN BATTLE!!

QUICK, GENIE... SWITCH THE WICKED EMPEROR IN CAPTAIN BATTLE'S PLACE!

CAP, QUICK! STRAP ON THE LUCE-FLYERS!

A GHASTLY SURPRISE!

IT IS THE EMPEROR'S HEAD!

OH... ALLAH!

LOOK! CAPTAIN BATTLE STANDS THERE, UNHARMED!

WHA..? WHERE... AM I?

ONCE AGAIN EQUIPPED WITH THEIR LUCEFLYERS...THE TWO HEROES MEET THE CHARGE OF THE ANGRY GUARDS!

AVENGE OUR EMPEROR!

KILL THEM!



ALLAH...
THEY'RE
GONE!

WHA--?

WE HIT
THE JACK-
POT!

AND THAT TAKES
CARE OF ALL THE
GUARDS!



HERE
WE ARE,
BOYS!

PEEK-
A-BOO!

BUT THE ENRAGED ALI
HASSAN IS LEFT!



MISSING WITH THE
MIGHTY SWING, ALI
LOSES HIS BALANCE!

AGH!

I'LL CHOP OFF
YOUR HEAD YET,
CAPTAIN BATTLE!

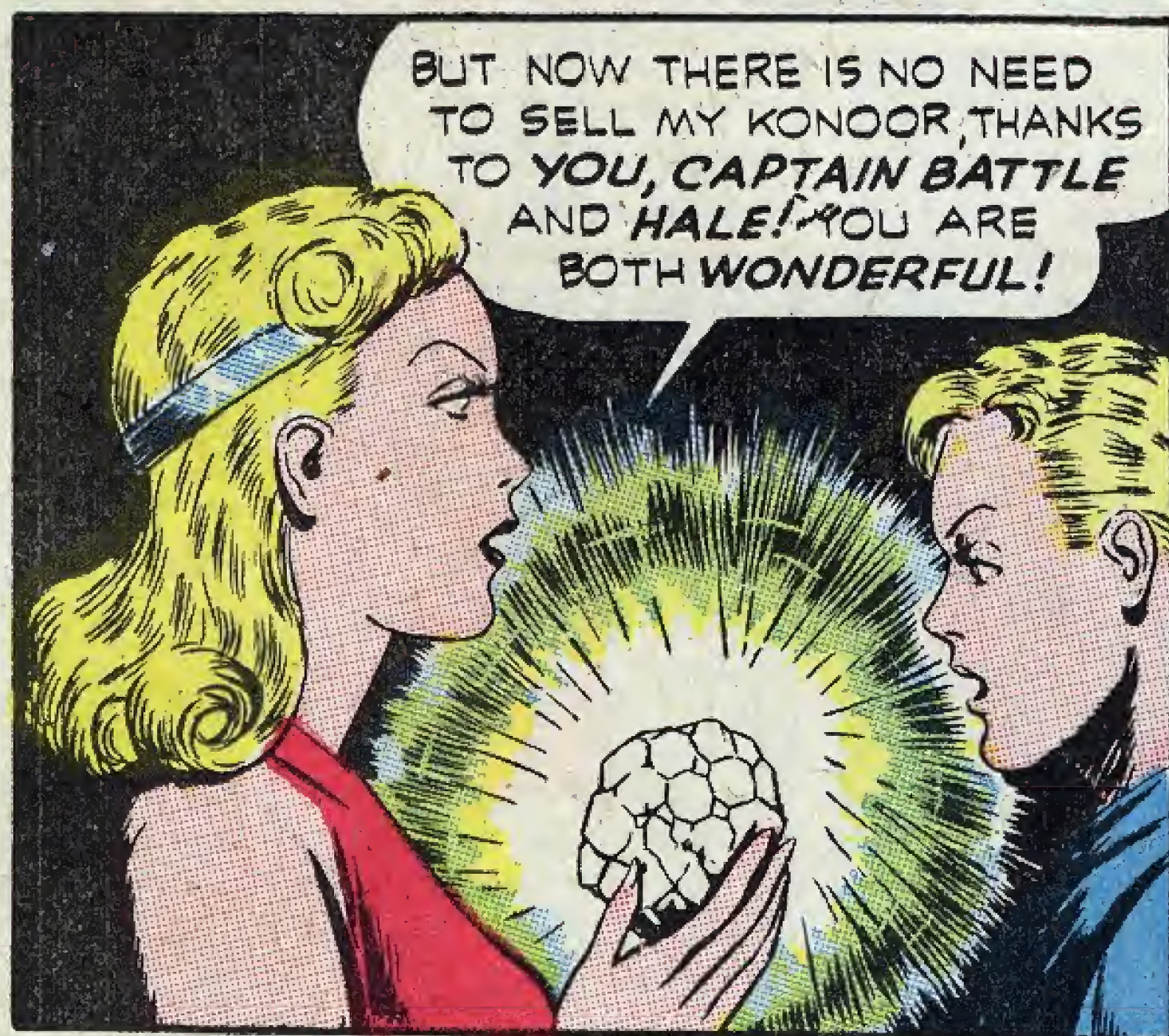
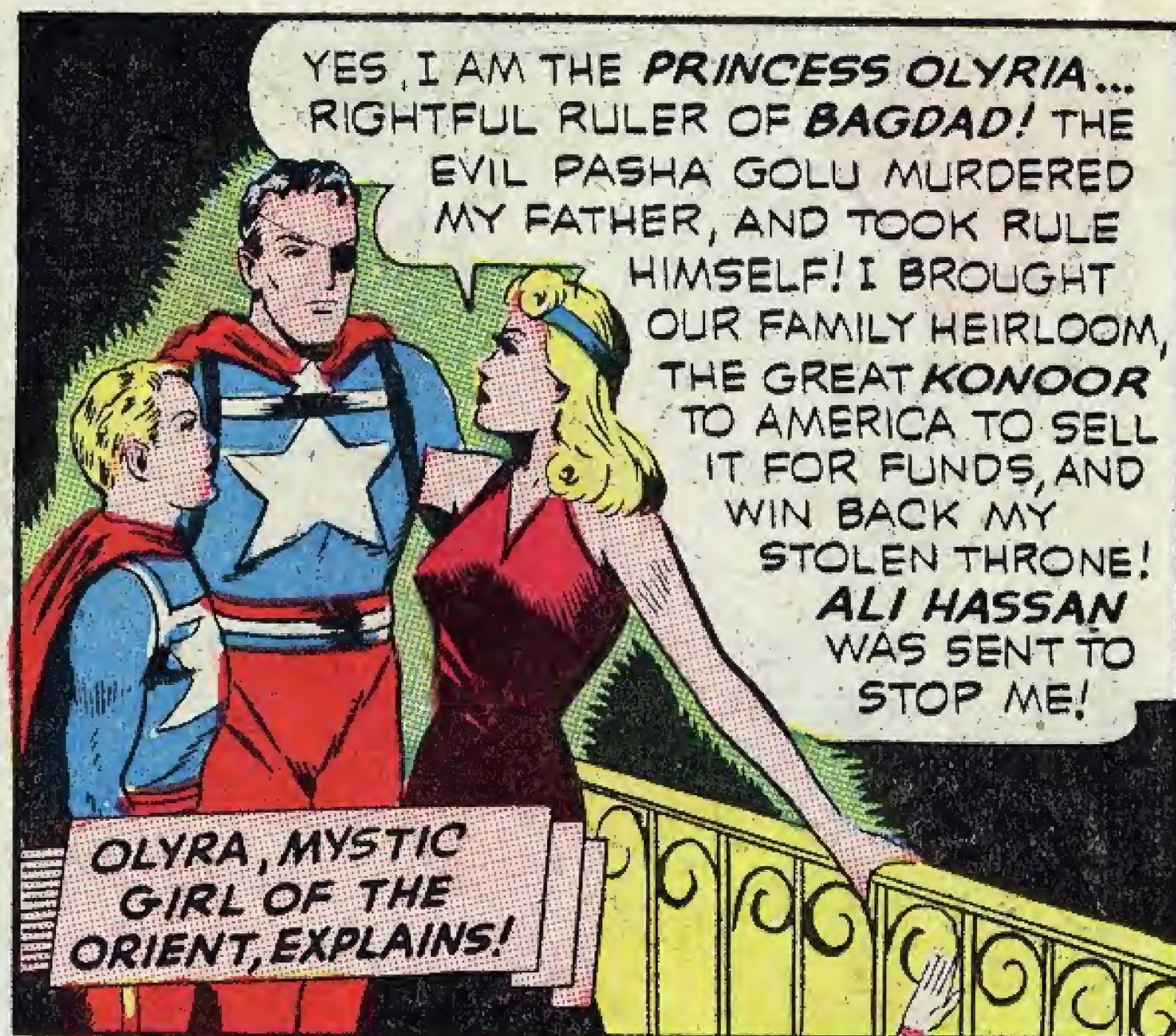
CAP...LOOK
OUT!!

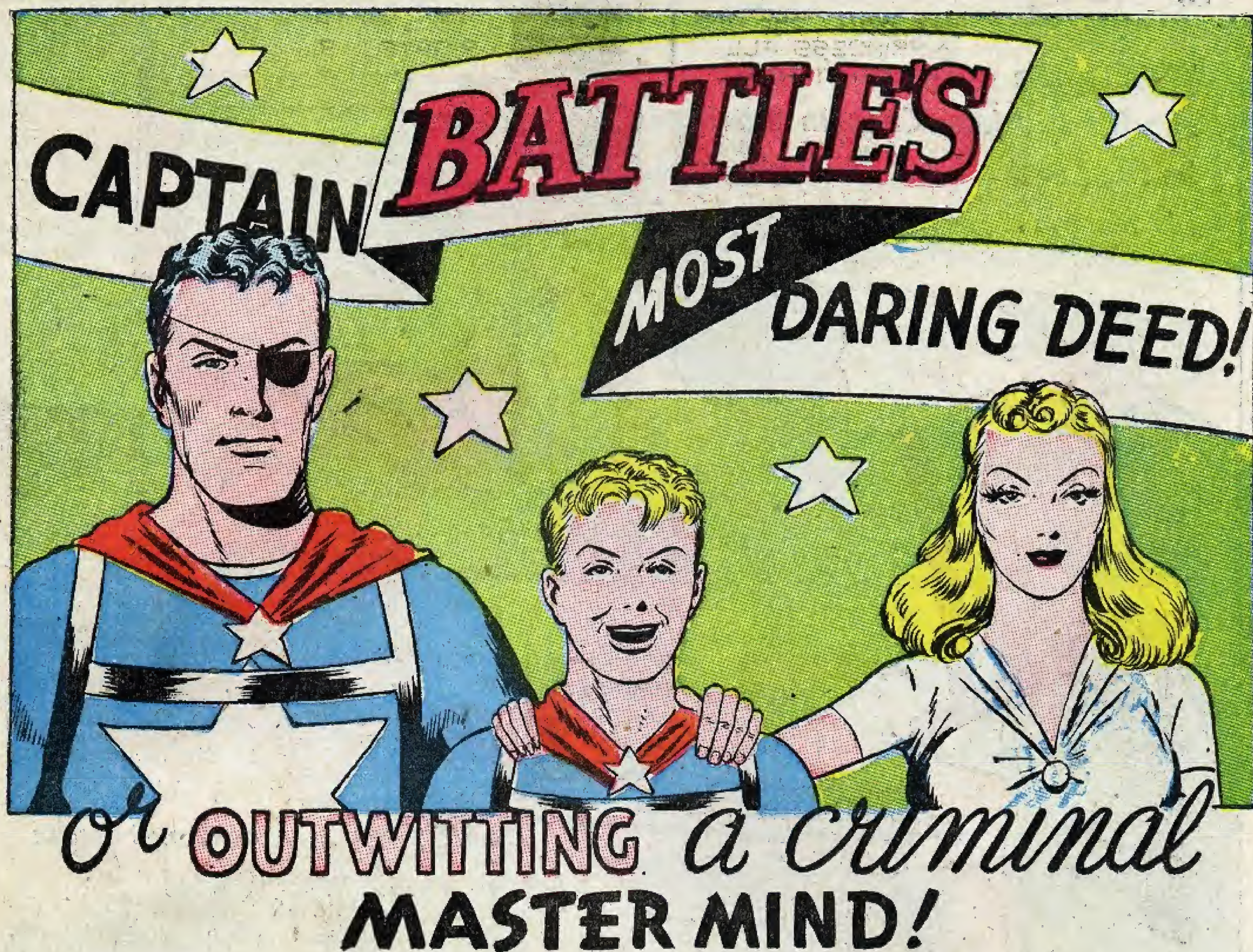
WITH THE EMPEROR DEAD,
THE PEOPLE ACCLAIM A
NEW RULER!

THE EVIL
EMPEROR
IS DEAD!

THE PRINCESS
OLYRA SHALL
RULE US!

PRAISE
ALLAH!





BY "RED" NIBO

All the newspapers featured the shocking headlines —"KIDNAP THREAT AGAINST ASTORBILT BOY!"

The text went on to explain —"Yesterday, Grover Astorbilt, the multi-millionaire, received a mysterious threat-note, signed by MISTER X. The note boasted boldly that at midnight tonight, Astorbilt's boy, Allen, would be kidnapped! This sounds like a very clever scheme of some sort. But the plot can't succeed, since Astorbilt has surrounded his home with detectives and police."

At the palatial home of Grover Astorbilt, the police and private detectives were so thick that not even a fly could get through to steal a sip of jam in the pantry. But still, in an inner room, Grover Astorbilt paced an expensive Oriental rug nervously, glancing at the clock and then at his young son alternately. It was one hour before midnight.

"Please calm yourself, Mr. Astorbilt," the Chief of Police admonished.

"I know I shouldn't worry," retorted Astorbilt, lighting a cigar with trembling fingers. "But I can't help it. This Mister X must have SOME scheme up his sleeve, that we don't know about."

"But what scheme could possibly work?" scoffed the police chief wearily, for the hundredth time. "The place is swarming with my men!"

Astorbilt suddenly ran to the phone.

"I can't stand it!" he moaned. "I'm going to call

Captain Battle. I won't feel safe until he's here to guard my boy."

"Captain Battle?" snorted the police chief, peeved. "What can he do that I can't, I'd like to know?"

But the frantic millionaire was already dialing. "Hello? Captain Battle?" he said eagerly, when connected with Hilltop Laboratory. "You've read of the kidnap threat to my son, I'm sure. Please come over immediately. I'll pay you any amount you ask—"

Clear and strong came the deep voice over the phone:

"The money doesn't interest me, Mr. Astorbilt. However, I'll come over, as I want to see that Mister X doesn't get away with his nefarious threat. I'll be over soon."

It was only a minute later that the policemen guarding the estate whistled in surprise and hastened to step out of the way respectfully as a tall, powerful figure clad in red, white and blue stalked through the gateway and into the house.

"No one is allowed in this room—" began the guard before the door, then gulped and stepped aside. "Excuse me, Captain Battle. Go right in!"

Astorbilt ran forward with an eager cry. "Captain Battle, I'm so glad you're here!" he greeted the great crime-buster, pumping his hand vigorously. "But how did you get here so soon? And where's your boy-partner, Hale?"

"As to your first question, with my Luceflyer, naturally," the stalwart figure smiled. "As for Hale, I didn't think it necessary to bring him along. After all, Mister X is only one man. I can handle him if he shows up."

"You're the only one in my way," snarled the fake Captain Battle, as he fired. But a hand of steel gripped his wrist . . .



... CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

Astorbilt gave a tremendous sigh of relief.

"I'm sure of that," he cried happily. "This is the first easy breath I've drawn since I received the note. Er . . . you may leave now if you wish, Chief," he waved at the police captain. "With Captain Battle around, I feel perfectly safe."

"Hmfff!" muttered the chief, stalking out. "As you wish, Mr. Astorbilt. But I'll still keep my men around the house, Captain Battle or no Captain Battle!"

The door closed behind the chief, and the lock clicked shut. Captain Battle was alone in the room with Astorbilt and his son. The boy ran up eagerly to the famous man in uniform, hero of rich and poor alike.

"Gee, Captain Battle himself!" the boy murmured in awed tones. "Gee whiz, am I lucky to have you guarding me!"

"Yes, son," agreed Astorbilt. "Now go to sleep on the couch. It's late for you to be awake."

The boy obediently crawled into the covers on the couch, and Astorbilt then began chatting with Captain Battle as though they were at a party, rather than awaiting the outcome of a sinister plot.

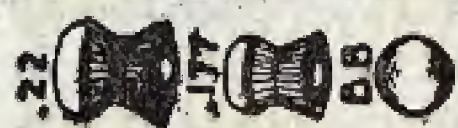
Bong! Bong! Bong! The clock struck twelve.

"Ho hum, midnight," chuckled the millionaire. He looked around confidently. "Well, Mister X, where are you?" But there was no sign of the criminal, and Astorbilt went on with a triumphant laugh. "He must have heard of Captain Battle being here. See, not a sign of Mister X!"

"Indeed?" grated a voice with heavy sarcasm. "I'm right here!"

Astorbilt whirled in the direction of Captain Battle,

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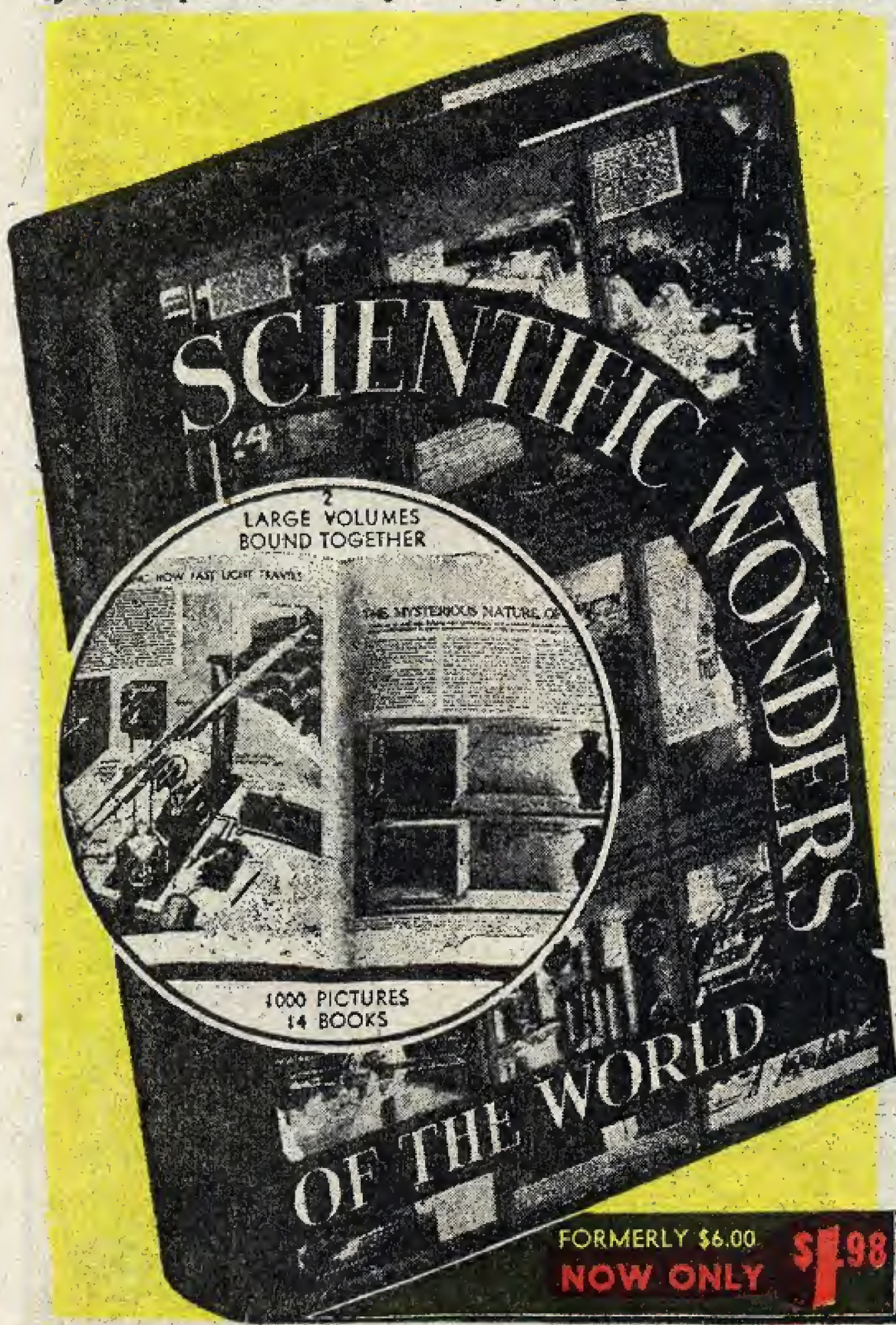
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HARLAND HOLLAND

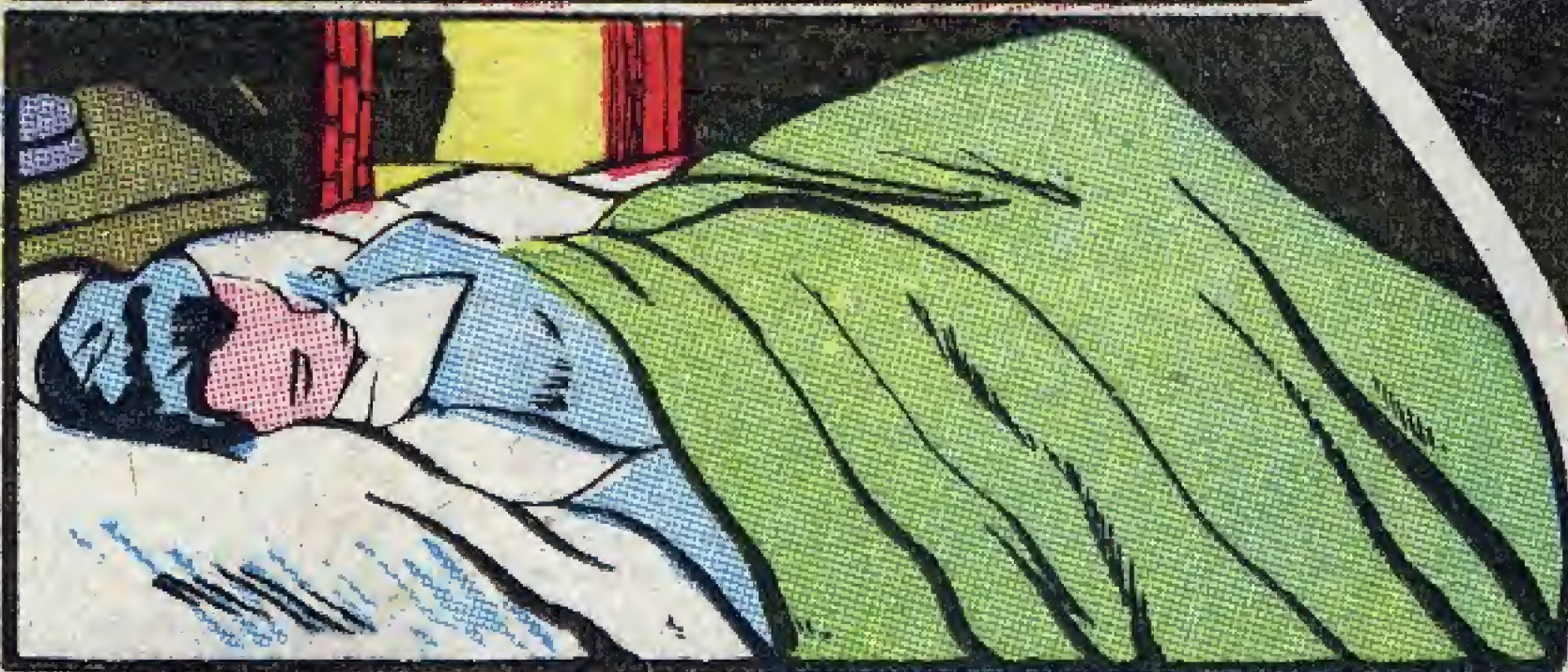
MASTER DETECTIVE

MEEET THE CRIME SLEUTH WHO GIVES YOU A CHANCE TO SOLVE A CRIME! YOU SEE AND LEARN ALL THE CLUES AS HE UNRAVELS AN INTRICATE PLOT! THEN YOU BECOME THE DETECTIVE! MATCH YOUR WITS WITH THIS BRILLIANT INVESTIGATOR AND TRY TO SOLVE THIS CASE BEFORE HE DOES!

BY
IRVING
PHILDAN

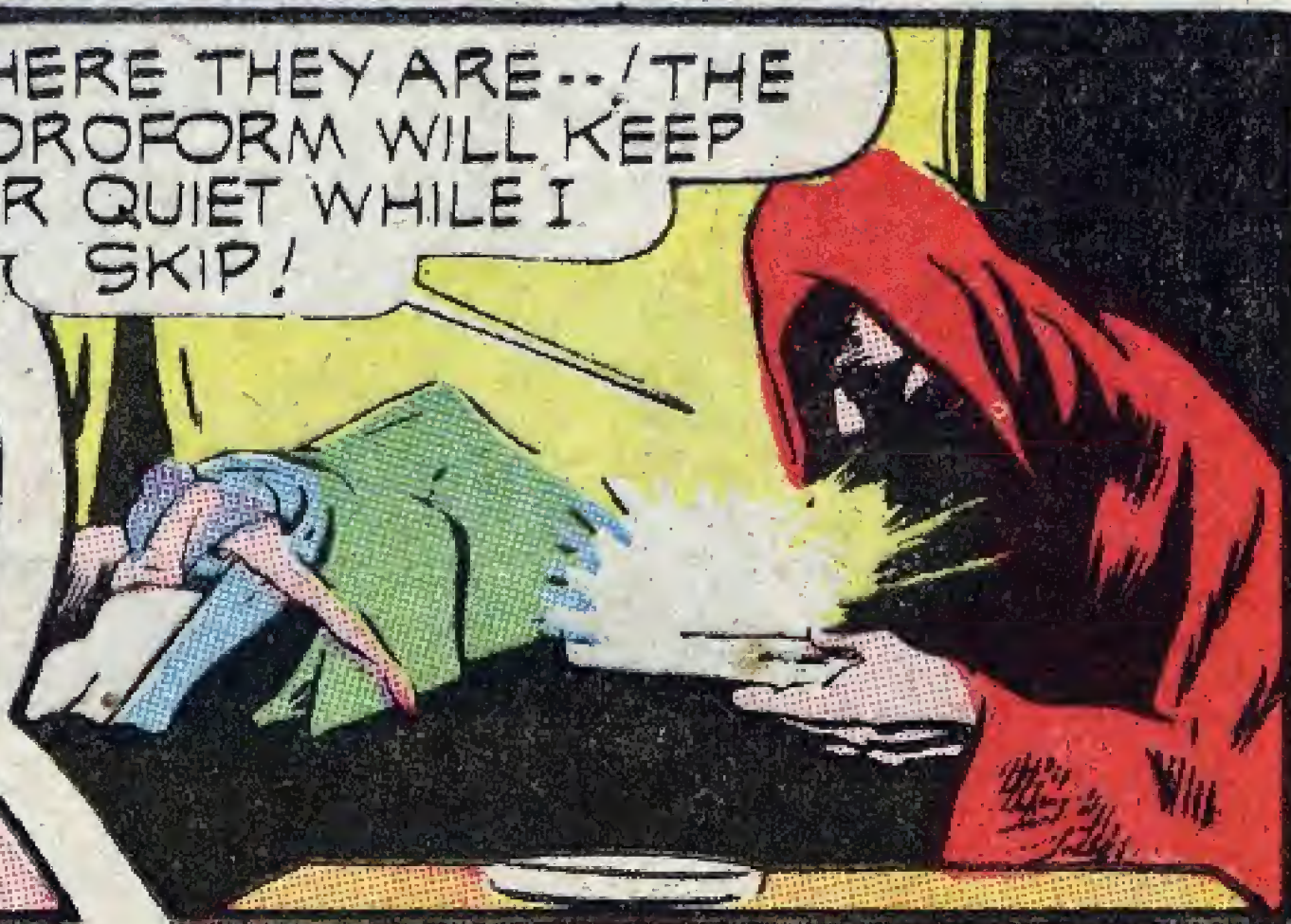
AS NIGHT DESCENDS OVER THE HOME OF DOROTHY VANDON FAMOUS MOVIE STAR

SILENTLY AS A CAT, THE INTRUDER STEALS TO THE SIDE OF THE BED...



THIS WILL
HELP
YOUR
BEAUTY
NAP...
OUCH!

AH! THERE THEY ARE.../THE
CHLOROFORM WILL KEEP
HER QUIET WHILE I
SKIP!



WHAT A NIGHT TO
SAY GOODBYE
TO AN OLD PAL!
WELL, THE ARGOSY
HOTEL WON'T BE
THE SAME WITHOUT
YOU! I'LL MISS
YOU UP THERE
THIS SUMMER!

YEP, I'LL MISS
IT TOO... BUT
I'M GOING
TO MAKE
GOOD ON
THIS NEW
RADIO JOB
OR MY NAME
ISN'T JAY
LEWIS!

WELL, GOOD-
BYE, OLD
MAN! LOTS
OF LUCK!

SO LONG
SEE YOU
IN THE
COMIC
MAGA-
ZINES!

I DREAM OF
JEANNIE WITH
THE LIGHT BROWN
HAIR---WHAT A
VOICE! GOLLY,
IT'S LATE, WHY
DO I LIVE IN
THE STICKS?
SOME TRIP
HOME!

Suddenly

UGH!

OOOF!

WHAT'S
THE
BIG
RUSH?

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

**COME ON!
LET'S GO!**

HOLLAND GRABS AT ONE OF THE MEN, BUT...

WAIT A
MINUTE.
OOOH!

**I AIN'T
FOOLING!**

**LET'S
SCRAM!**

**SOME WALLOP!
BOY! -- MY
JAW!**

WHO ARE YOU? AL GOLDEN, THE AGENT FOR DOROTHY VANDON? HER JEWELRY WAS STOLEN? RIGHT!...I'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES!

AT GOLDEN'S HOME--

WELL, THE FIRST THING I KNEW ABOUT THIS WAS WHEN MISS VANDON CALLED ME. I GOT IN TOUCH WITH YOU... THE COPS MIGHT MEAN BAD PUBLICITY!

I'LL PAY A GOOD FEE IF YOU RECOVER MY JEWELS, MR. HOLLAND!

EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, MISS VANDON?

I DON'T QUITE KNOW! I REMEMBER SOMETHING BEING PUSHED INTO MY FACE! I STRUGGLED!--THEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK!--WHEN I CAME TO, THE JEWEL CASE WAS MISSING FROM THE DRESSING TABLE! I CALLED AL! THAT'S ALL!

NOTHING MUCH TO GO ON! BUT IT TIES UP WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO ME COMING OUT OF THIS ALLEY EARLY IN THE MORNING...THEY SLUGGED ME! THAT'S THE REASON FOR THIS ADHESIVE! ONE OF THEM WORE A RING! IT LEFT A NASTY GASH! THOSE MUST BE YOUR THIEVES!

WORE A RING, EH?

YES! MUST HAVE BEEN A BIG ONE! IT LEFT A PECULIARLY SHAPED MARK ON MY JAW!

THAT MAKES IT EASY! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MATCH THE MARK ON YOUR JAW WITH THE PROPER RING!

HA, HA! SAY, DOROTHY--YOU ARE A REGULAR DETECTIVE! WELL, EXCUSE ME A MOMENT! I HAVE TO MAIL AN IMPORTANT LETTER! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

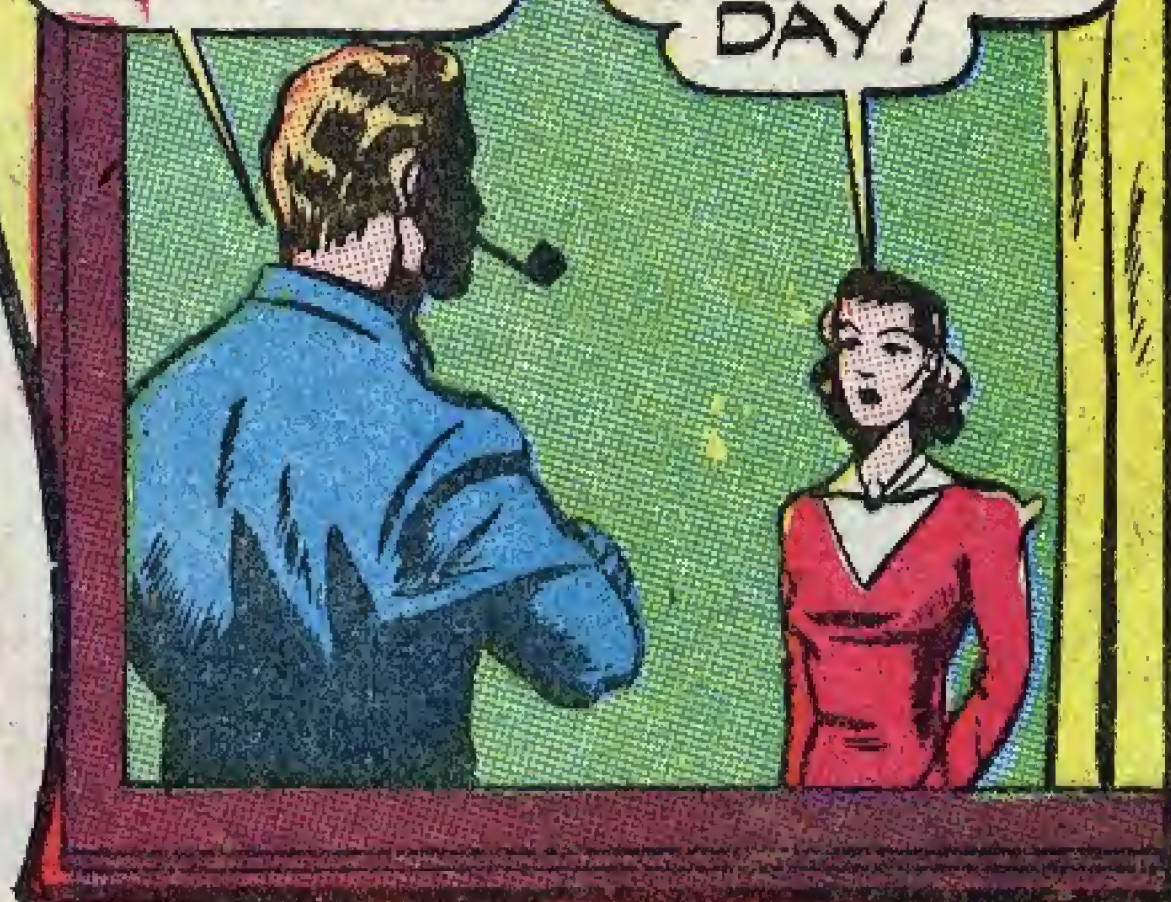
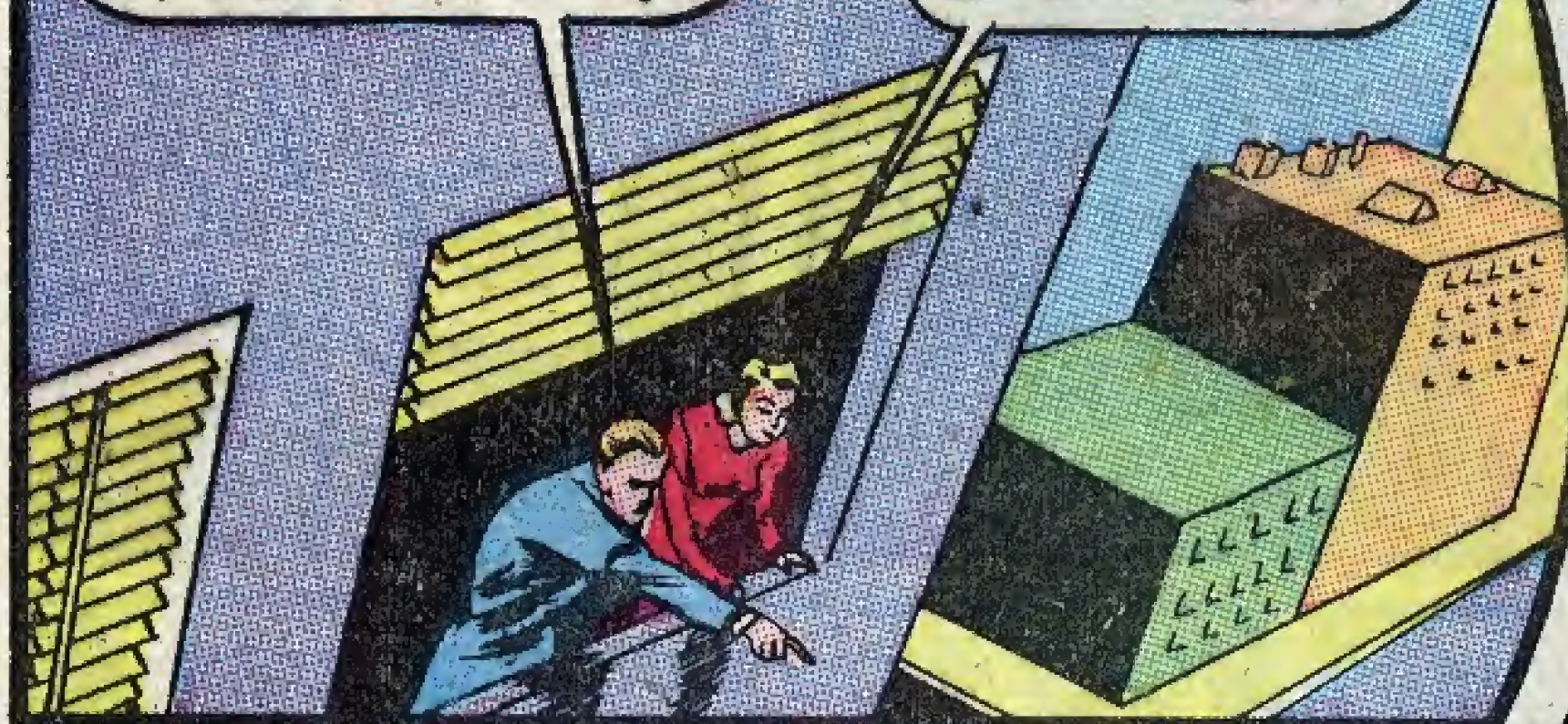
RIGHT! I'LL JUST SNOOP AROUND AND SEE WHAT I CAN DIG UP!

WHOEVER LIFTED YOUR JEWELS HAD AN EASY TIME GETTING IN AND OUT OF YOUR ROOM... RIGHT UP THE FIRE ESCAPE--ACROSS THE LEDGE--AND BACK THE SAME WAY! HOW DID THE GEMS COME TO BE IN YOUR ROOM?

I USUALLY LEAVE THEM WITH THE HOTEL MANAGER BUT I HAD A REPAIR MADE ON THE CLASP OF THE NECK-LACE, SO I LEFT THEM IN MY ROOM OVERNIGHT!

I SEE! BY THE WAY, MISS VANDON, DO YOU HAVE SERVANTS?

YES---ONE!--A COMPANION AND SECRETARY! I EXPECT HER BACK SOON FROM A WEEK END HOLIDAY!



WELL, I GOT THE LETTER OFF! SUPPOSE I CALL DOWN FOR SOME GINGER ALE AND CRACKED ICE---MAY AS WELL INVESTIGATE IN COMFORT!

GOOD IDEA!



HELLO, MISS VANDON! I JUST GOT BACK!

MADGE--SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED! MY JEWELRY WAS STOLEN LAST NIGHT! THIS IS HARLAND HOLLAND, THE DETECTIVE--MY SECRETARY, MISS WILSON!



OH, I'M TERRIBLY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR JEWELS! I'M SURE MR. HOLLAND WILL FIND THEM!

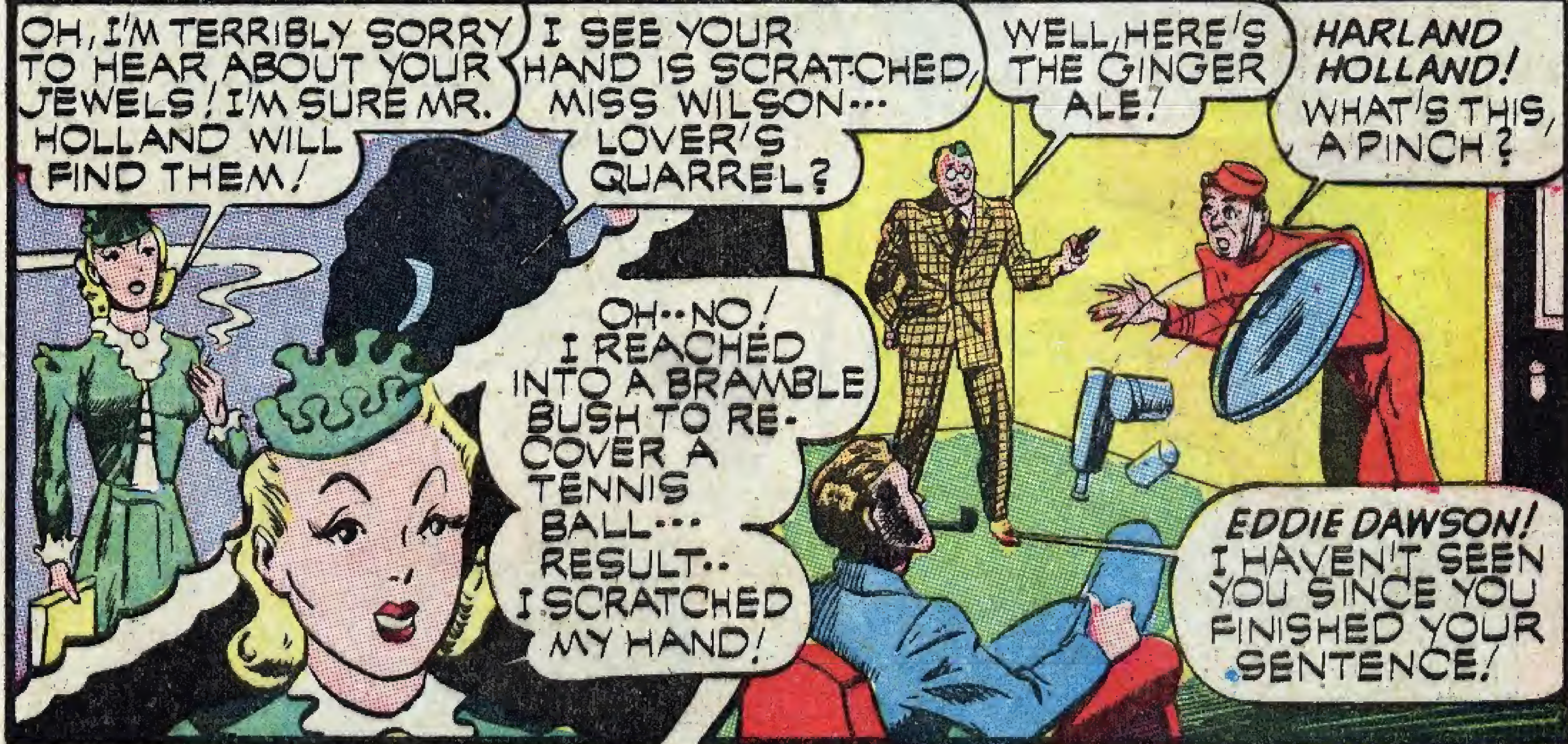
I SEE YOUR HAND IS SCRATCHED, MISS WILSON... LOVER'S QUARREL?

WELL, HERE'S THE GINGER ALE?

HARLAND HOLLAND! WHAT'S THIS, A PINCH?

OH--NO! I REACHED INTO A BRAMBLE BUSH TO RECOVER A TENNIS BALL... RESULT.. I SCRATCHED MY HAND!

EDDIE DAWSON! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU FINISHED YOUR SENTENCE!



GOT YOUR HAND BANGED UP, EH EDDIE?

I SMACKED A GUY FOR CALLIN' ME A JAILBIRD! HONEST---I AIN'T DONE NOthin'! I'M STRAIGHT, NOW!

THERE'S YOUR MAN, HOLLAND, RING AND ALL!

EDDIE? OH, NO! HE'S NOT A CROOK! JUST ASSAULT AND BATTERY! HE GOT SENT UP FOR THAT THE LAST TIME! BUT EDDIE'S NOT OUR MAN!

GEE-- THANKS HOLLAND!

BY THE WAY, MISS WILSON, WHERE DID YOU SPEND YOUR WEEK-END?

I WENT TO THE ARGOSY HOTEL! IT'S A VERY LOVELY PLACE!

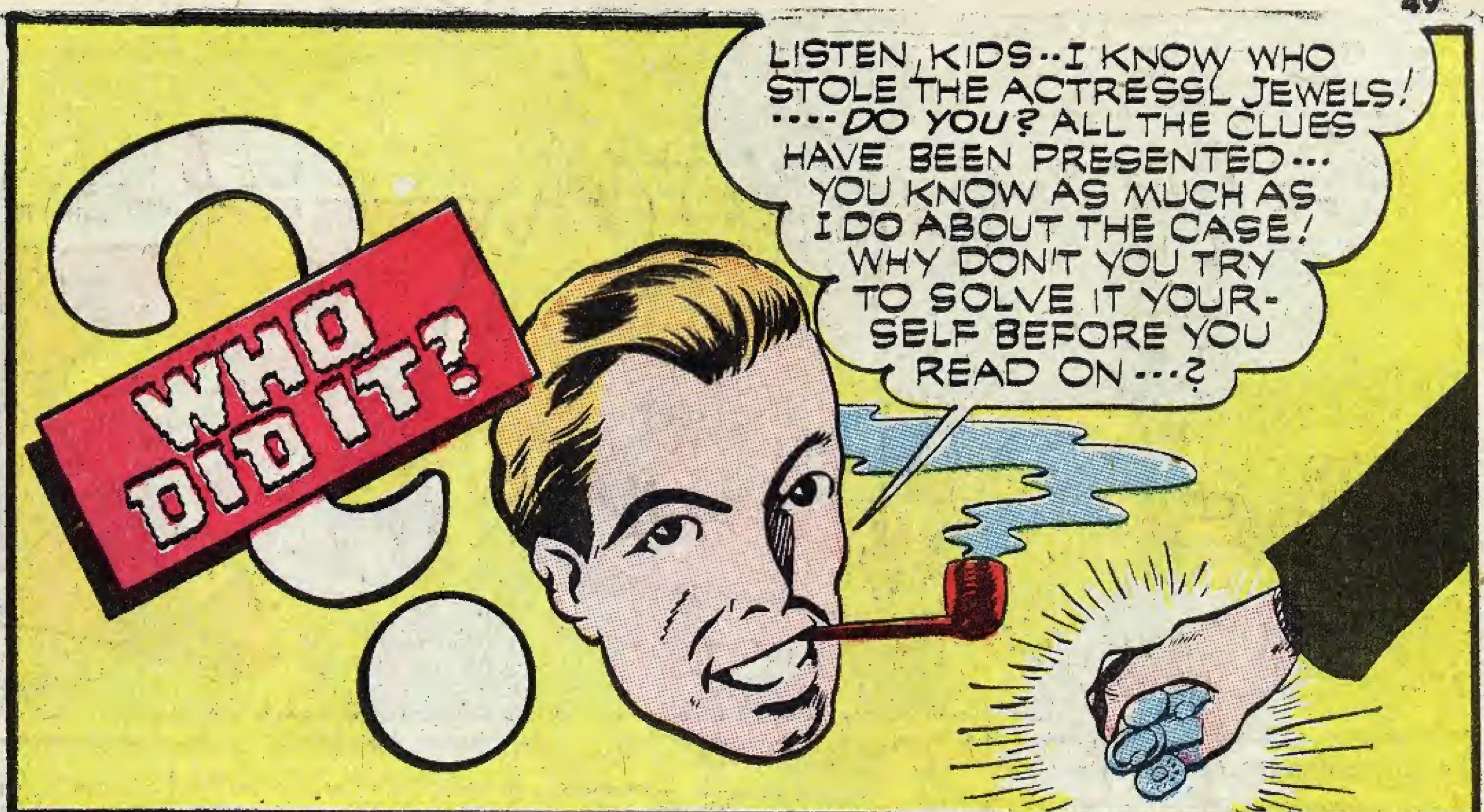
OH! I KNOW THAT PLACE! BY THE WAY-- DO THEY STILL HAVE THAT ENTERTAINER, JAY LEWIS, THERE?

OH YES! HE'S THERE---A VERY CLEVER FELLOW--AWFULLY FUNNY!

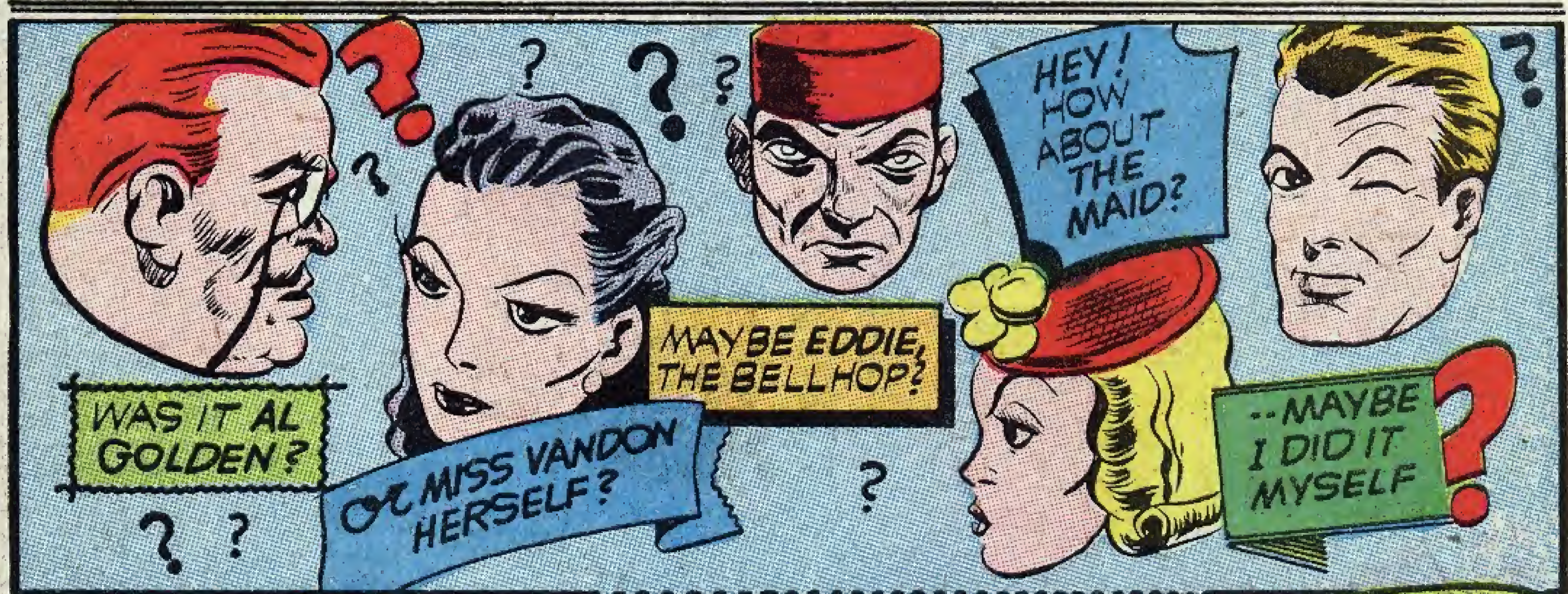
SEE HERE, HOLLAND! I SHOULD THINK THAT YOU'D BE DOING MORE TO FIND THE THIEF THAN DISCUSSING SOCIAL DIRECTORS AT A HOTEL! I CAN'T SEE WHAT DIFFERENCE THAT MAKES!

WELL, I'LL TELL YOU! I ALREADY KNOW WHO STOLE THE JEWELS!

WHAT?!



Which ONE OF THESE SUSPECTS IS THE CROOK?



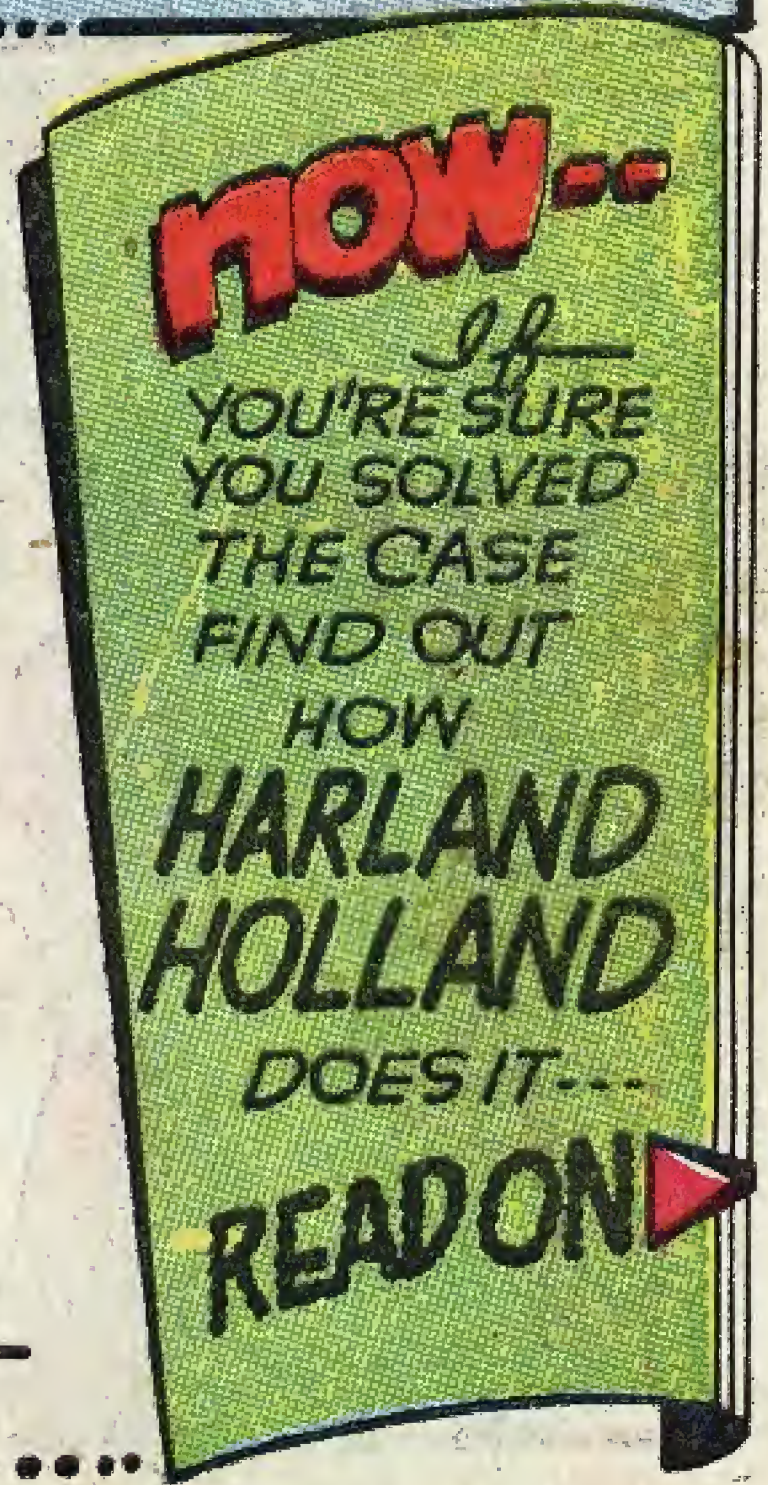
STUDY EACH PICTURE CAREFULLY--THE CLUES ARE THERE --- THEN---

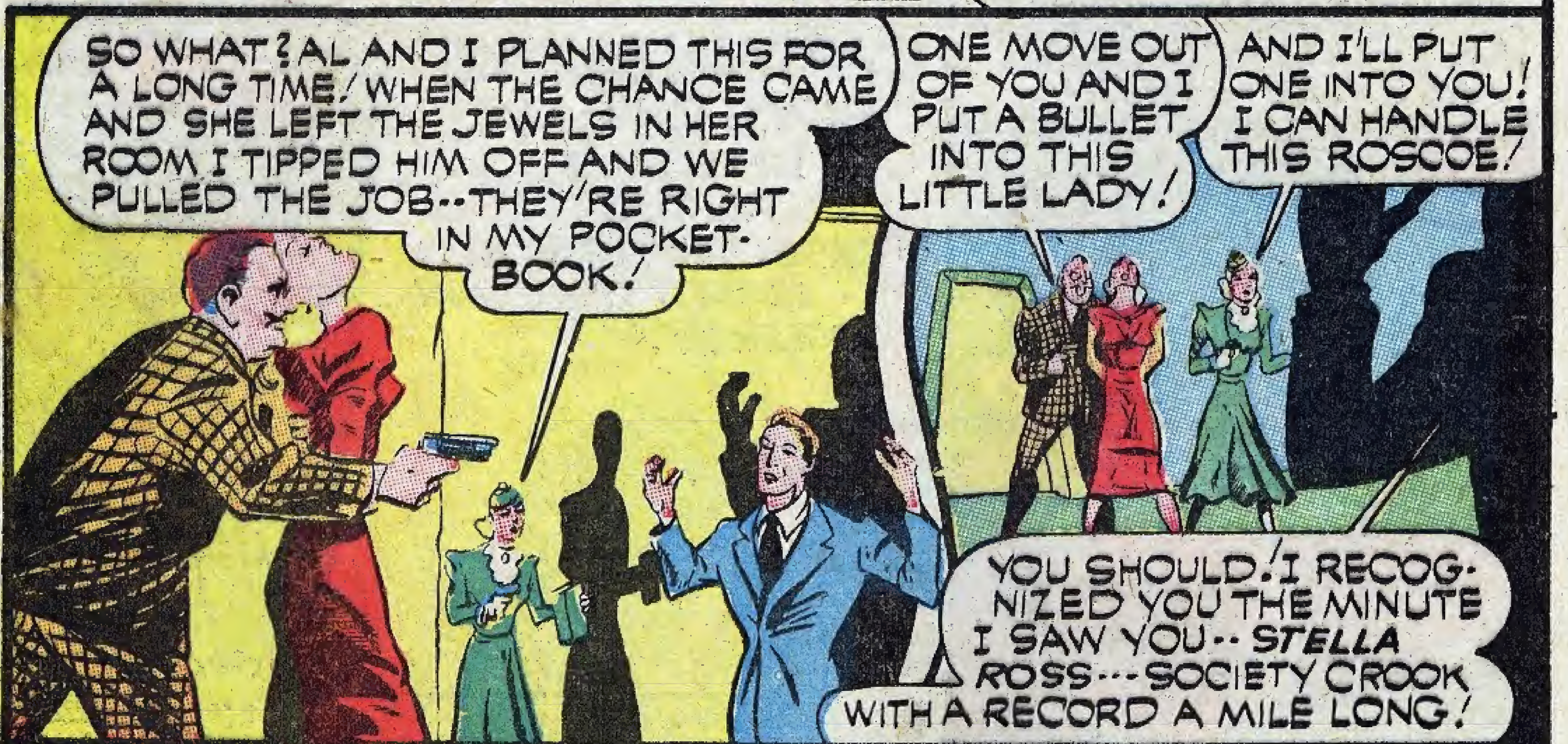
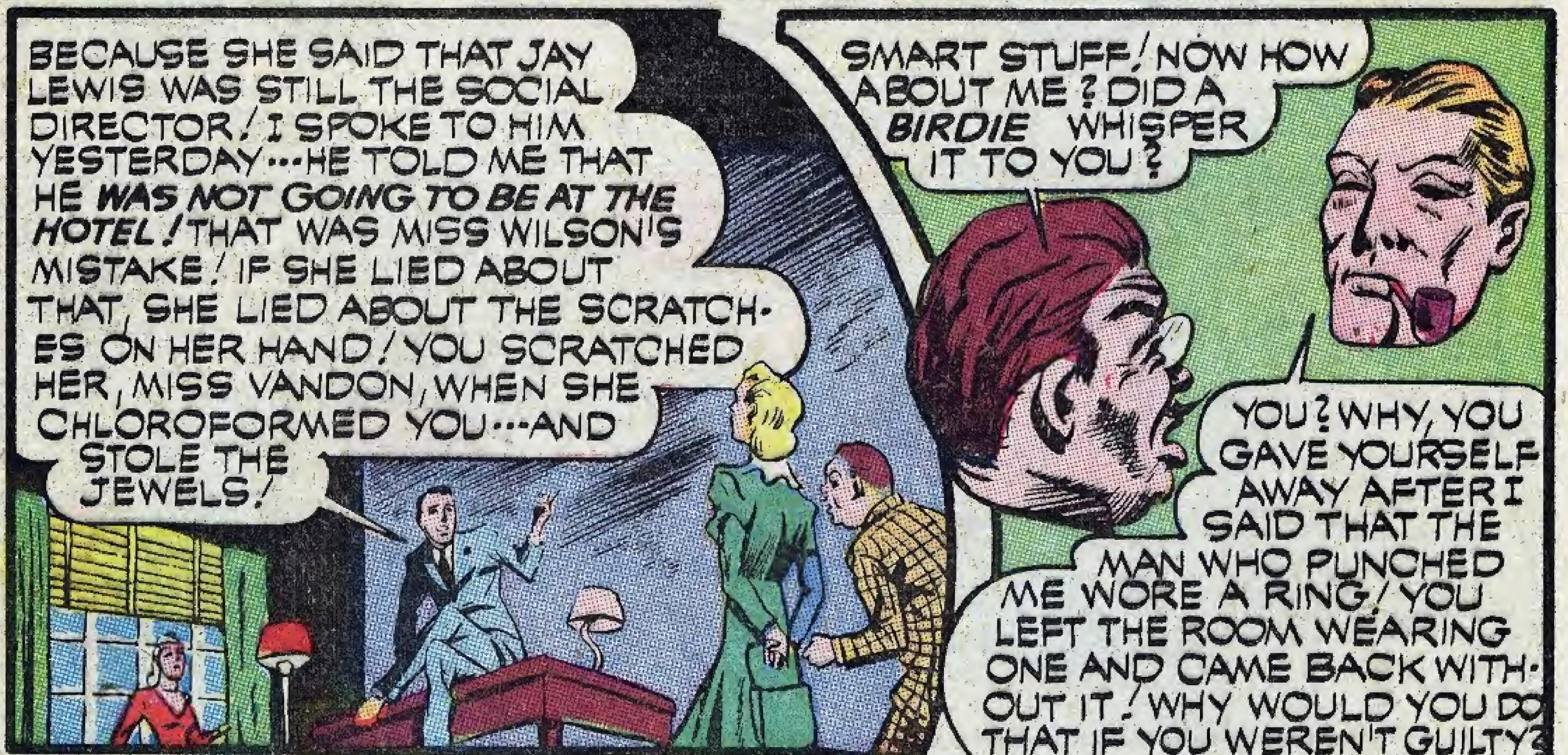
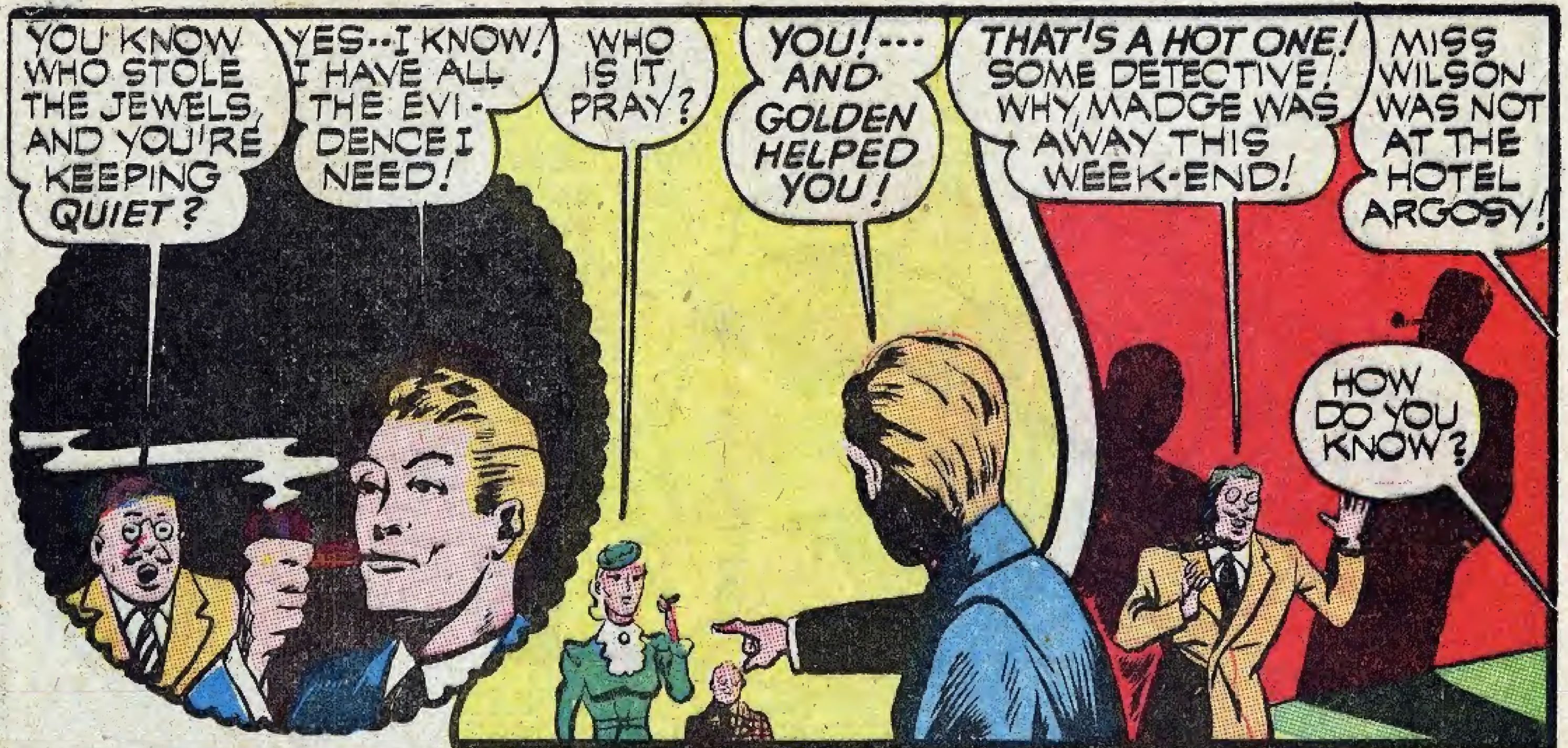


CAPTAIN BATTLE
BOY'S BRIGADE
DETECTIVE
REPORT
CASE: JEWELS OF MISS
DOROTHY VANDON
STOLEN BY:

Reasons FOR
DEDUCTION:

SIGN HERE





HOPE I'M NOT
BARKING UP
THE WRONG
SHIN!

YOU SHOULD LOCK THE
DOOR IF YOU WANT TO
PLAY WITH GUNS!

—*Pring-A ARE POPPIN'!*



READY
OR NOT,
HERE I
COME!

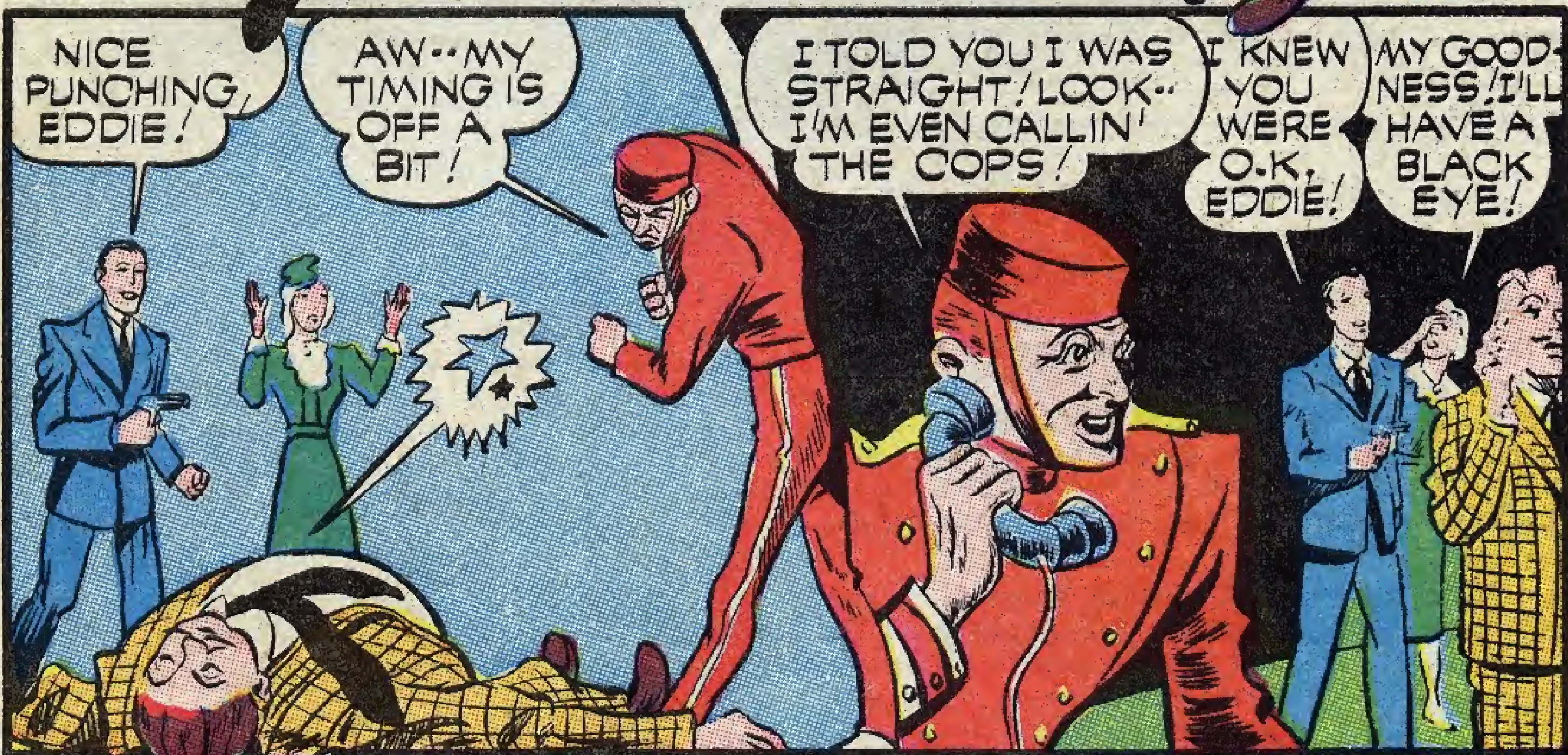
NICE
PUNCHING,
EDDIE!

AW..MY
TIMING IS
OFF A
BIT!

I TOLD YOU I WAS
STRAIGHT! LOOK..
I'M EVEN CALLIN'
THE COPS!

I KNEW
YOU
WERE
O.K.,
EDDIE!

MY GOOD-
NESS! I'LL
HAVE A
BLACK
EYE!



WELL, IF IT AIN'T STELLA
ROSS! AIN'T SEEN YOU
FOR YEARS!

OH,
SHUSH!

ANY TIME I
CAN HELP
YOU, LET ME
KNOW.

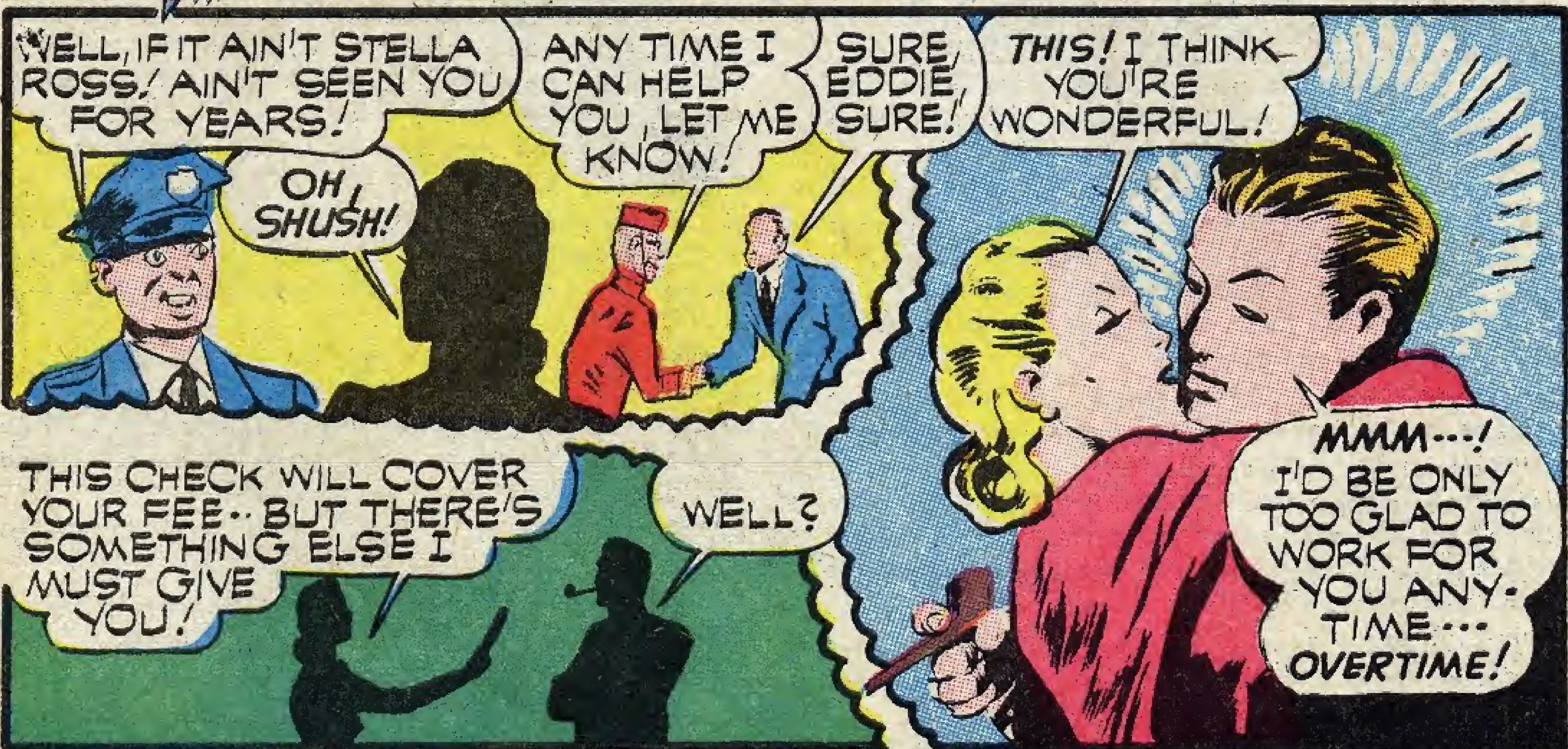
SURE,
EDDIE!
SURE!

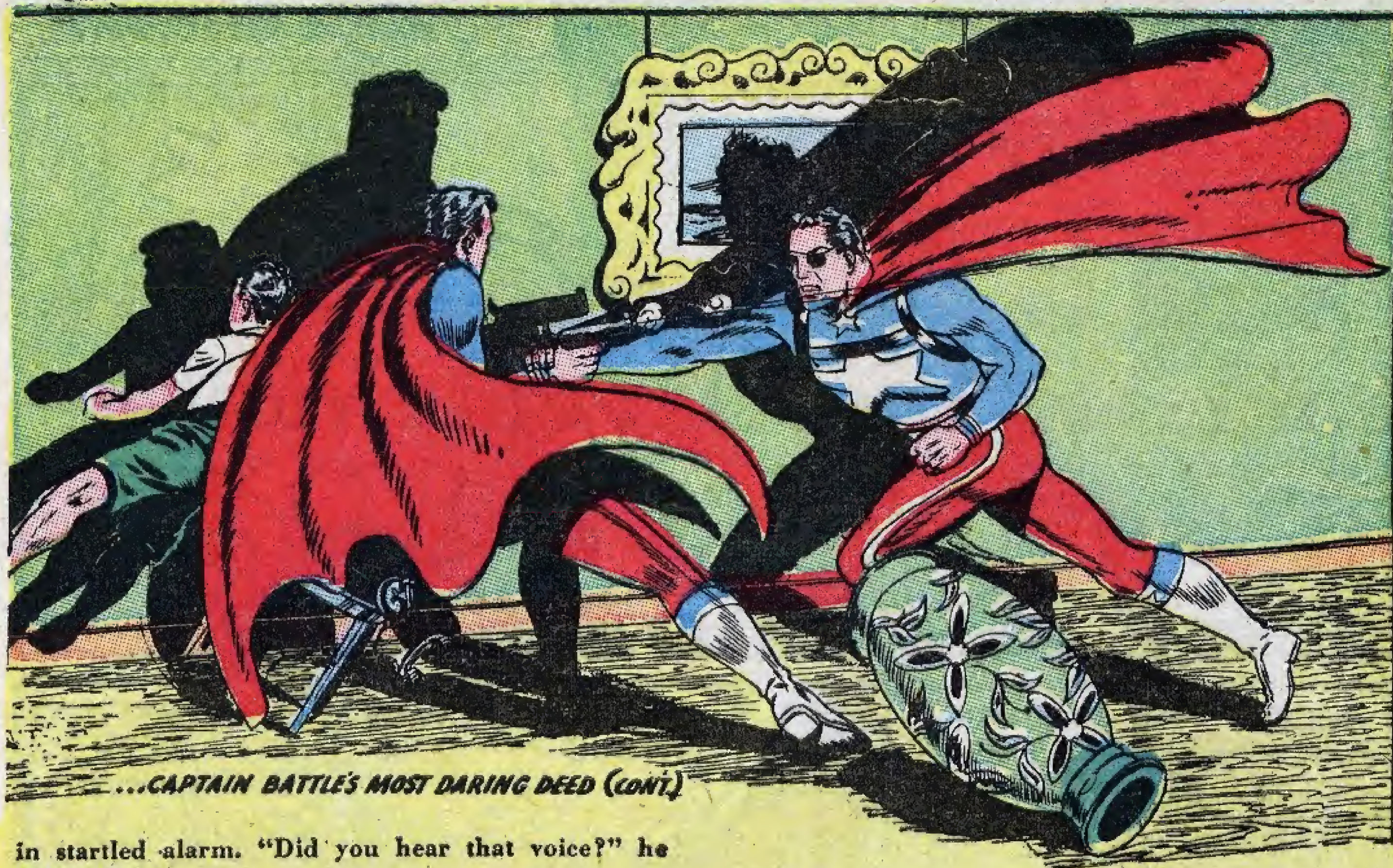
THIS! I THINK
YOU'RE
WONDERFUL!

THIS CHECK WILL COVER
YOUR FEE.. BUT THERE'S
SOMETHING ELSE I
MUST GIVE
YOU!

WELL?

MMM...!
I'D BE ONLY
TOO GLAD TO
WORK FOR
YOU ANY-
TIME...
OVERTIME!





...CAPTAIN BATTLE'S MOST DARING DEED (CONT.)

in startled alarm. "Did you hear that voice?" he demanded.

"I ought to have," Captain Battle returned, "since it's MINE!"

Slowly the millionaire's eyes opened wide in stunned fear, as the red, white and blue figure drew a gun from its belt.

"You see," the figure dressed as Captain Battle drawled, "I'm Mister X!"

"YOU!" gasped Astorbilt, dumbfounded. "But—but—but—"

"Simple, wasn't it?" explained Mister X. "I had your phone wire tapped, out beyond the grounds. When you called for Captain Battle, I answered! And it was I who walked past all your police and guards without a hand laid on me. Getting out will be just as easy. First I'll tie you. Then I'll walk out, holding young Allen's hand, and claiming that you sent me to take him to Captain Battle's Hilltop Laboratory. The police, never suspecting it is the cunning Mister X, will let me through without a shred of suspicion, ha, ha!"

Swiftly, then, the criminal master mind bound and gagged Astorbilt, who dared make no sound lest his brains be blown out the next second. Then Mister X woke the boy, explained they were going away and tugged him to the door, the boy overjoyed at being Captain Battle's companion.

"Is everything all right in there?" asked the police chief at the door, as the false Captain Battle emerged.

"Quite all right," was the suave answer. "Astorbilt has already gone upstairs to bed. For safekeeping, he turned his boy over to me for a day or two. As for Mister X, his kidnap plot was completely foiled. He didn't even show up!"

The police all grinned, glad that the kidnap threat was over, and turned away, letting the costumed figure through the hall.

"Ha, ha, the brainless saps!" chuckled Mister X

to himself, moving down the hall and turning to the right as his mirror-image blocked his path. "Funny place for a mirror," he thought.

Then he gasped. For the wall to the right was solid. The way WAS forward. Then what in the wide world was that figure dressed exactly like himself, if it wasn't his reflection? . . .

And the figure spoke. "No, I'm not your mirror-image, Mister X. I'M THE REAL CAPTAIN BATTLE! I figured that even with all the police around, I'd better keep watch!"

Quick as lightning, Mister X drew his gun.

"You're the only one in my way!" he snarled. "And you can't move faster than a bullet—"

But before he could fire, a hand grasped his wrist and gave a sharp wrench, at which the criminal squealed in pain and dropped his gun. In blank astonishment, he stared at the boy who had stripped off his suit and was now in a red, white and blue costume!

"Meet Hale Battle!" grinned Captain Battle. "You see, we have tricks, too. After the boy Allen was put to bed, Hale came down the fireplace chimney and took his place."

"So all the while I was pulling Hale Battle away!" groaned Mister X. "I didn't have a chance from the start!" Suddenly it was all too much for him, and he crumpled to the floor, sobbing like a baby. "I give up!" he choked. "Take me to jail."

"What, without a fight? Hale said in disappointment.

"He's one of the master mind type of criminals," Captain Battle explained, shaking his head. "When their wonderful plans go wrong, they just don't have any fight left in them."

THE END.

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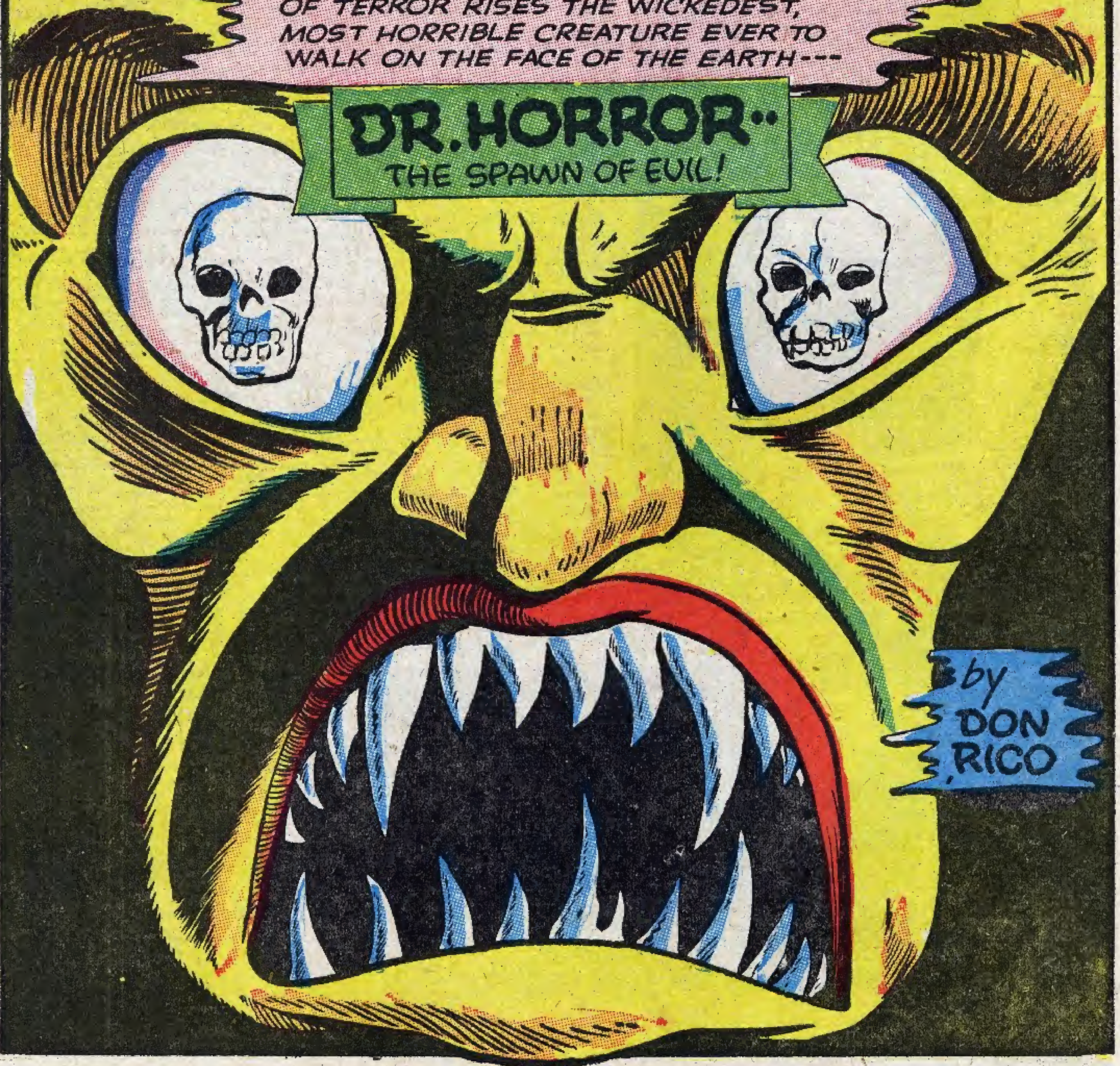
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54
DOCTOR

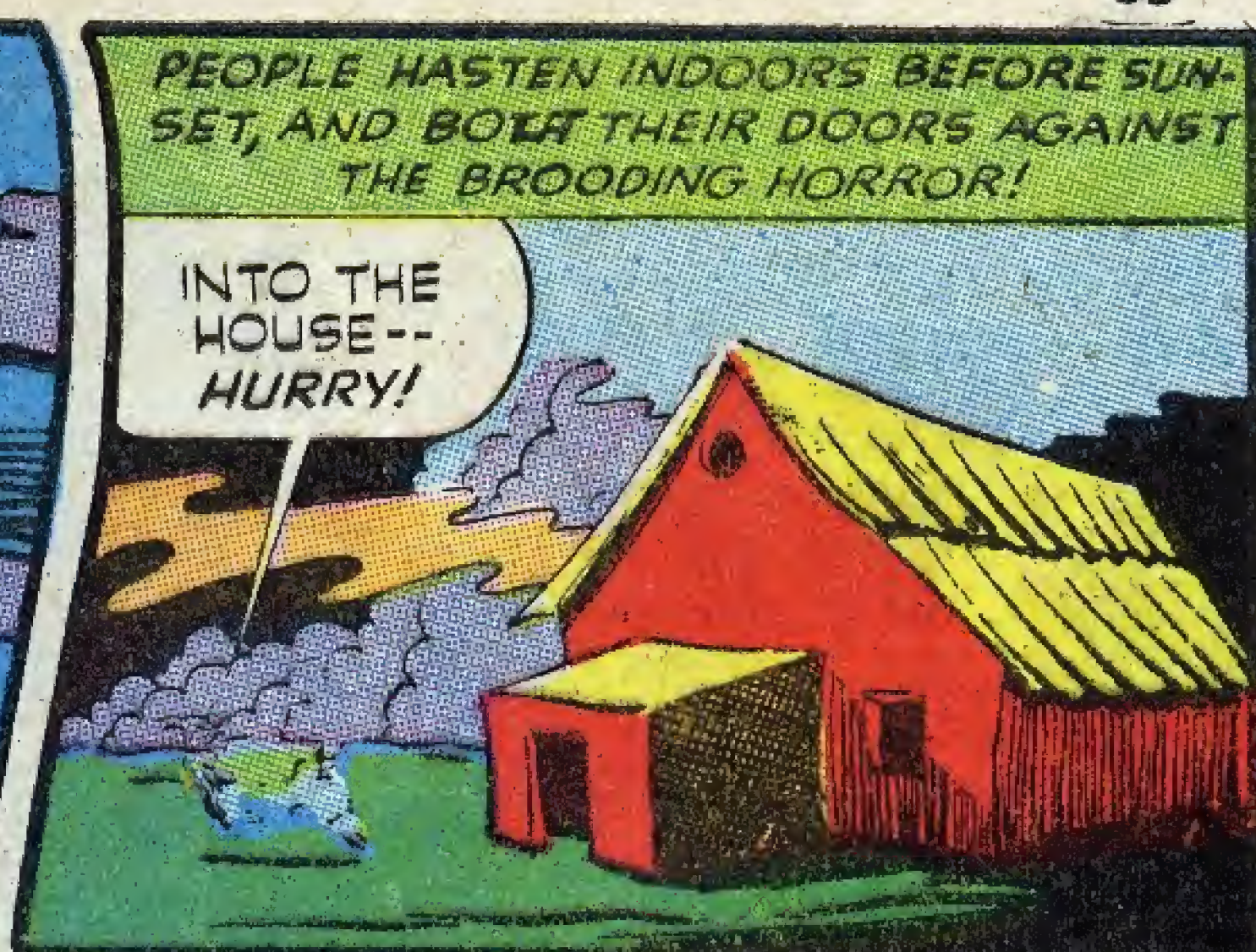
H O R R O R

BANSHEES HOWL AND WITCHES CHORTLE
WITH GLEE AS OUT OF THE CAULDRON
OF TERROR RISES THE WICKEDEST,
MOST HORRIBLE CREATURE EVER TO
WALK ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH---

DR. HORROR..
THE SPAWN OF EVIL!



by
**DON
RICO**



EVIL SPIRITS! THINGS THAT
WALK IN THE NIGHT!! MONSTERS
OF DARKNESS!!! ON LAND---
BELOW THE SEAS---IN THE
AIR---

**WE CALL
YOU!**

AS THE NIGHT AIR
RINGS WITH THE UN-
HOLY COMMAND --
THE EERIE FOLLOWERS
OF THE THREE SISTERS
OF EVIL APPEAR!



DANK WITH SEAWEED, COME THE THINGS OF THE SEAS! WITH WHIRRING WINGS, THE DEMONS OF THE AIR! CREEPING...CRAWLING...RUNNING...THE GOUHLISH, WEIRD PHANTOMS OF LAND---TO ANSWER THE COMMAND OF THEIR MASTERS!



YOU HAVE DONE WELL!
BECAUSE OF YOU--TROUBLE
SWEEPS THE EARTH! MEN
KILL...CITIES BURN! BUT
EVEN THIS IS NOT ENOUGH!
SOON YOU SHALL SEE
WHAT WE WANT!

The
UNEARTHLY
RITE
BEGINS!

DOUBLE...DOUBLE! TOIL AND
TROUBLE! FIRE BURN AND
CAULDRON BUBBLE!!

I ADD A
LEOPARD'S
CLAW AND THE
BONES OF A
VULTURE!

FROM ME---
THE EYE OF
A POISONOUS
SERPENT!

INTO THE
CAULDRON I
PUT THE SKIN
OF A TOAD!

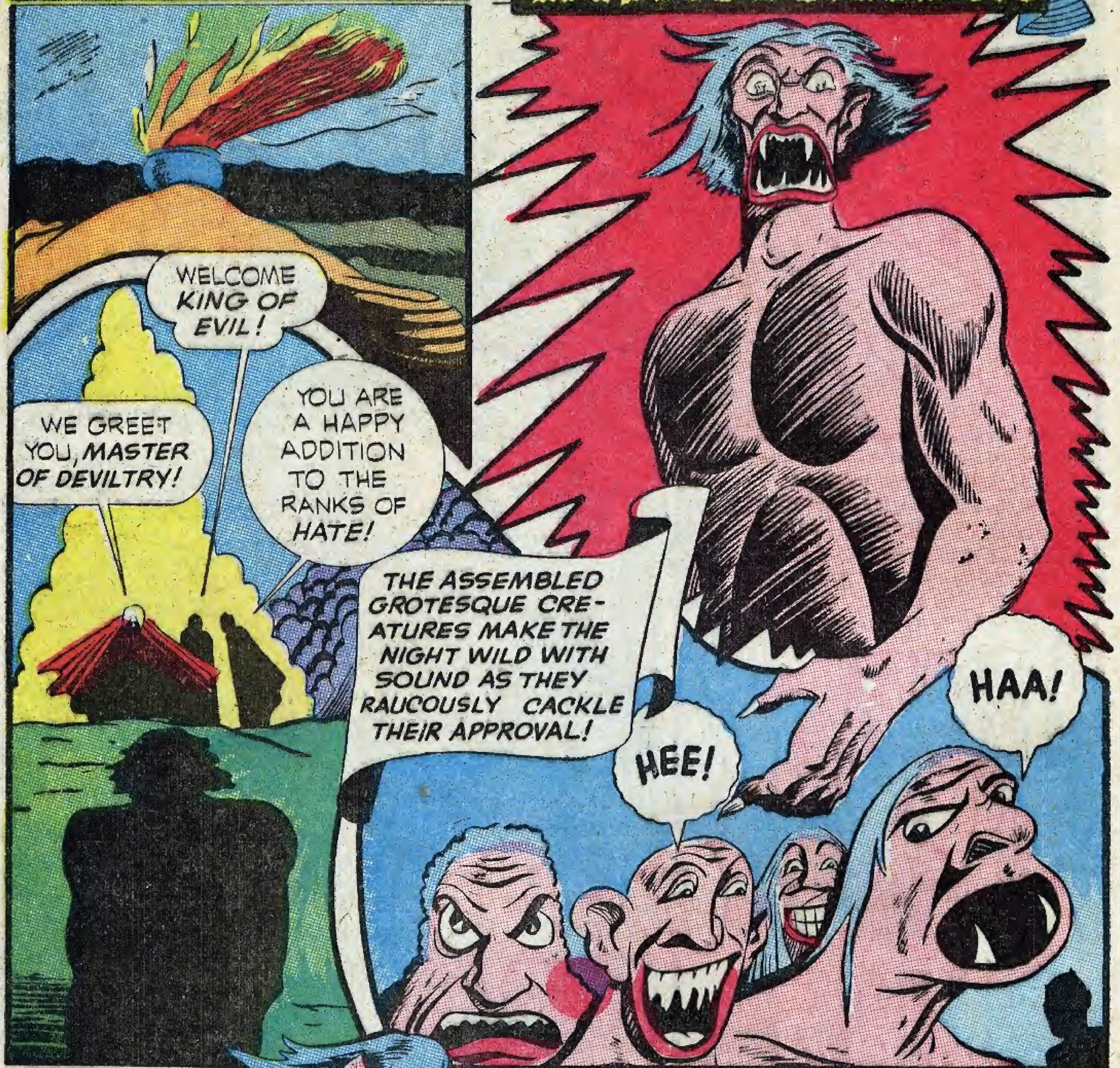
ON AND
ON GOES
THE WILD
CEREMONY!

NOW...CAULDRON OF
TERROR! SPEW FORTH
FROM YOUR MOLTEN
CONTENTS THAT WHICH
WE HAVE CONJURED!



FROM OUT OF THE FUMES RISING ABOVE THE CAULDRON...A GHASTLY SPECTRAL FORM TAKES SHAPE!

DR. HORROR!



WATCH NOW, OH
SISTERS OF FEAR!
GAZE ON THE SPAWN
OF YOUR **BLACK**
ART!

The DEMONAICAL SCOURGE HURLS HIS
POWERS OF DESTRUCTION OUT ONTO
HUMANITY! CATASTROPHES...DISASTERS...
CALAMATIES RUN RIOT--
DR. HORROR IS LOOSE!

HA! HA!
HAAA!!

BOOM!

CRASH!

EVERYWHERE PEOPLE SEEK TO
ESCAPE THE DEMON'S HAVOC!

FLEE TO THE
HILLS! IT'S OUR
ONLY CHANCE!

WHAT'S
THE USE?
WE'RE
LOST!

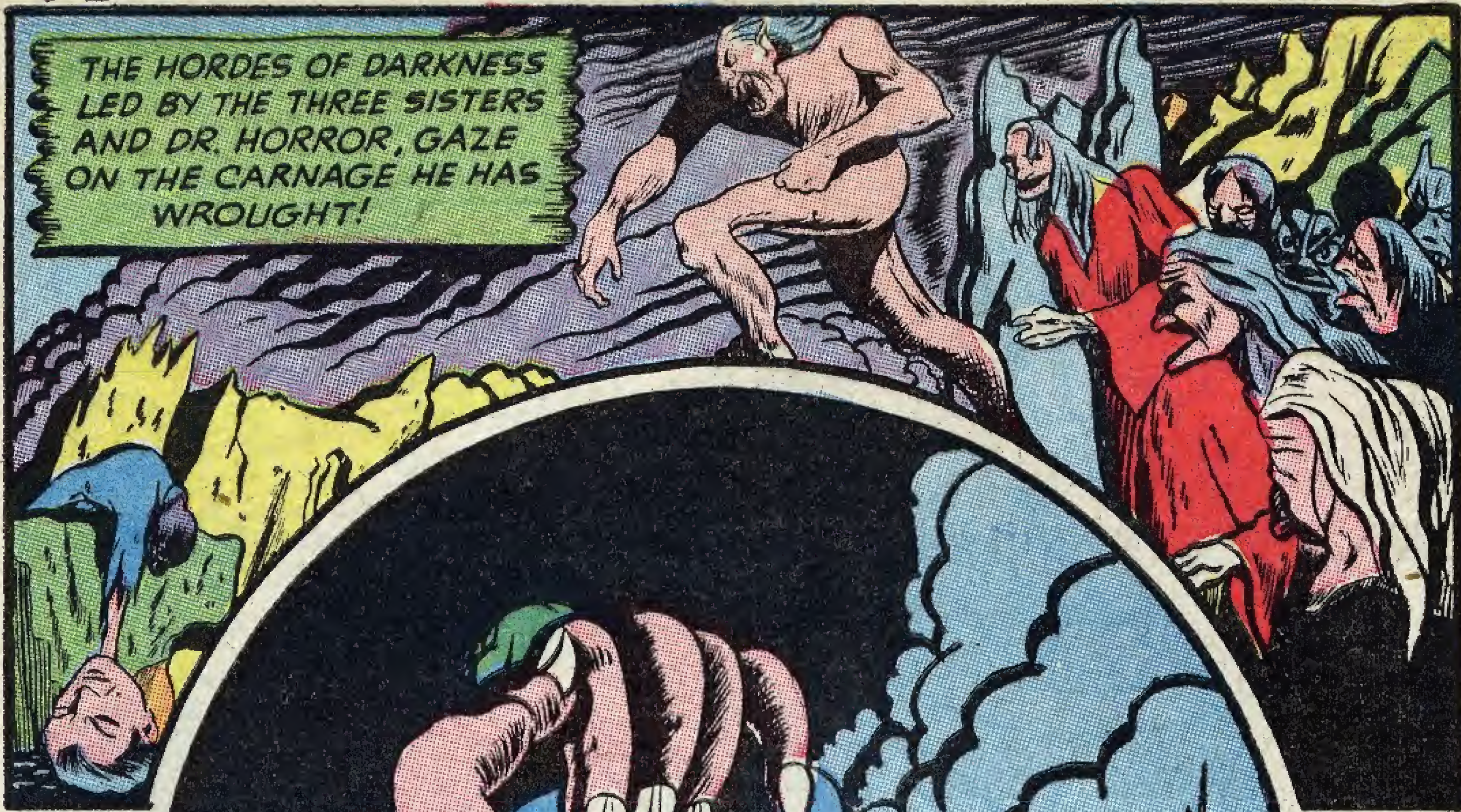
JOYOUSLY THE MASTERS
OF EVIL GLOAT OVER
THESE DASTARDLY DEEDS!

HEEE!
HEEEEE!!

HAA!

VERY GOOD,
OUR SON--
VERY, VERY
GOOD!!

THE HORDES OF DARKNESS
LED BY THE THREE SISTERS
AND DR. HORROR, GAZE
ON THE CARNAGE HE HAS
WROUGHT!



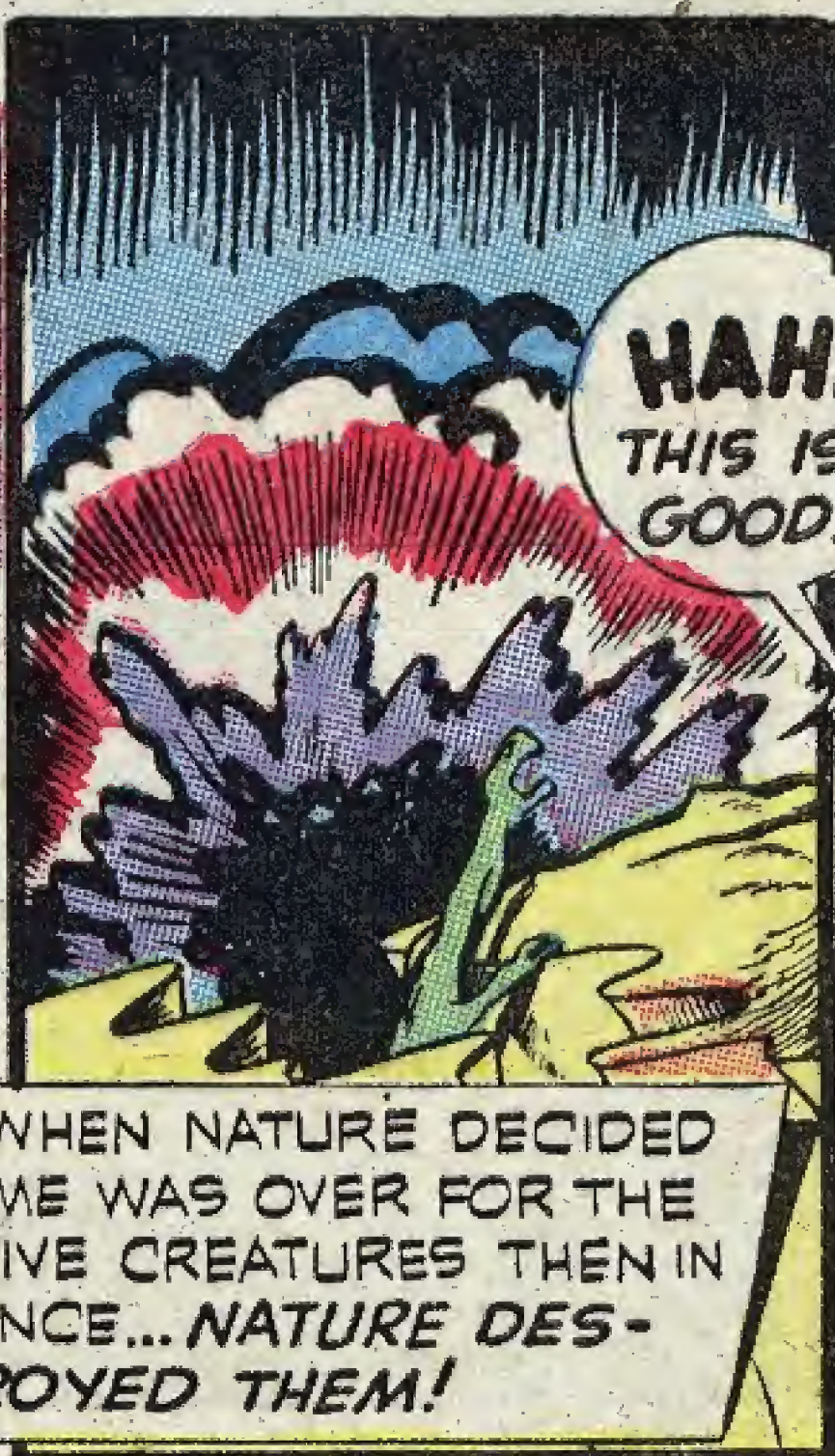
ONWARDS STALKS THE GRIM, RELENTLESS MARCH OF DESTRUCTION!
ARE THESE DIABOLICAL DEEDS TO GO UNHINDERED? WILL THE VICIOUS
FORCES OF UNEARTHLY TERROR BE SUPREMELY VICTORIOUS?

BUT WAIT!!

SINCE THE DAWN OF
HISTORY--SINCE THE
FIRST ANIMAL ROAMED
THE EARTH--NATURE
HAS SOLVED ITS
MANY PROBLEMS!



AND WHEN NATURE DECIDED
THE TIME WAS OVER FOR THE
PRIMITIVE CREATURES THEN IN
EXISTENCE... NATURE DES-
TROYED THEM!



HAH!
THIS IS
GOOD!

MORE! MORE!! MORE!!!
KILL! DESTROY! SLAUGHTER!
ONWARD GOES DR. HORROR
ON HIS GRUESOME MISSION!

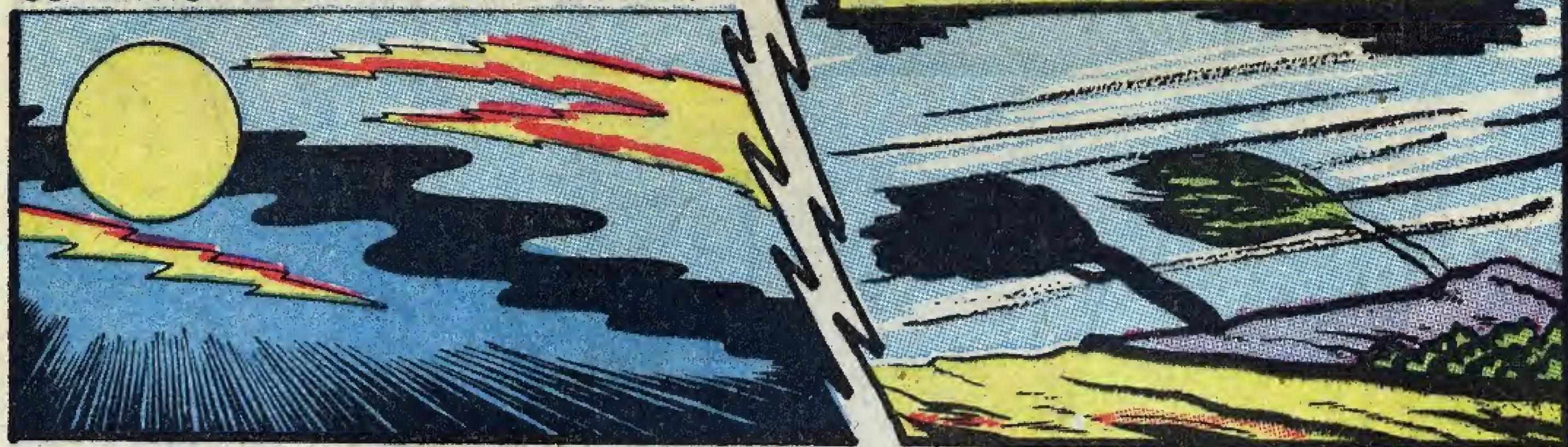
**YOU HAVE
DONE WELL!**

AYE!
WE ARE
PROUD OF OUR
HANDIWORK!



BUT NATURE BEGINS TO TIRE OF THIS MACABRE EXHIBITION...THE ELEMENTS COMMENCE TO GATHER IN THEIR FURY!

FROM HIDDEN CAVES, THE WINDS MARSHAL THEIR STRENGTH!



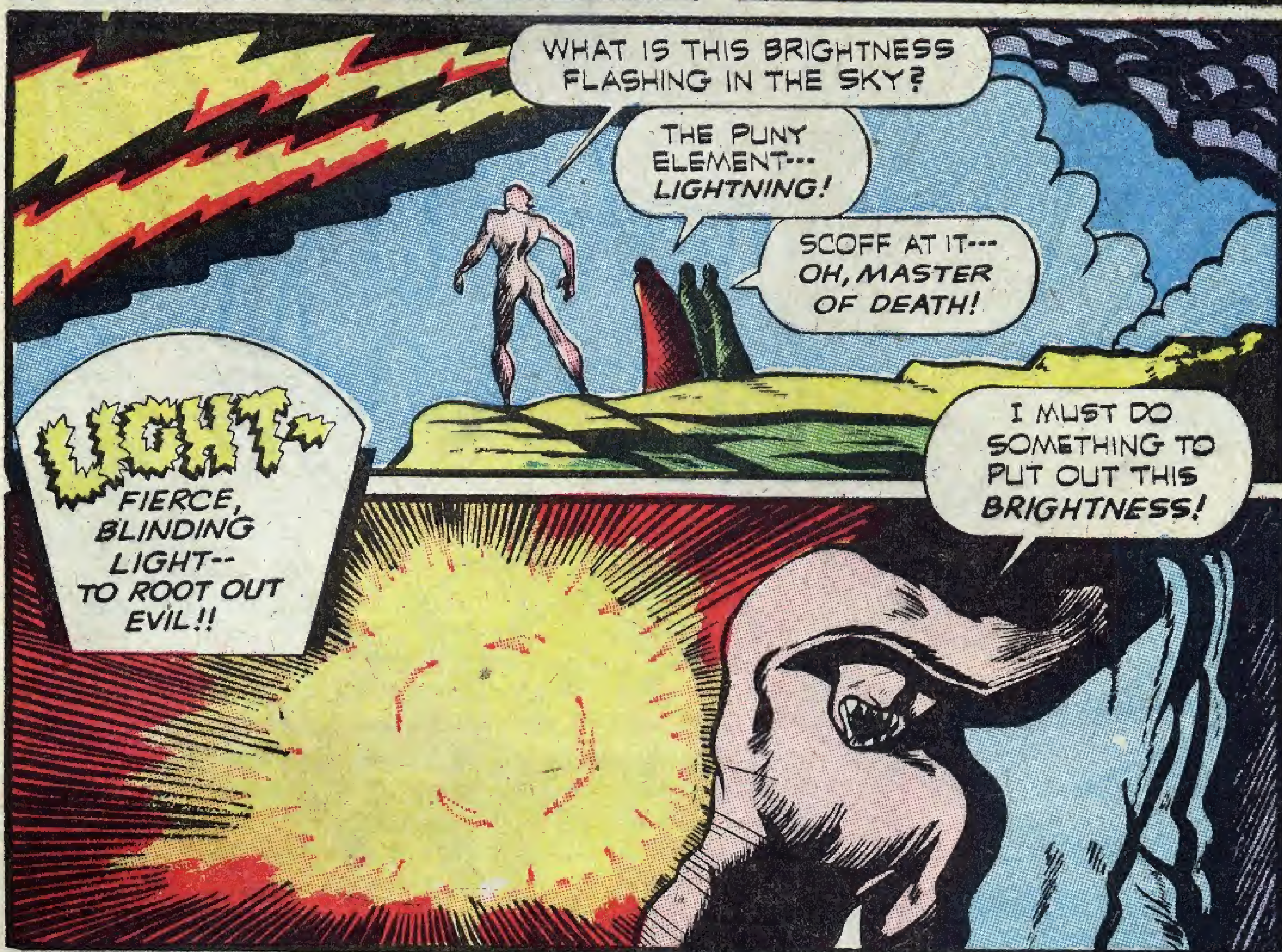
WHAT IS THIS BRIGHTNESS FLASHING IN THE SKY?

THE PUNY ELEMENT...
LIGHTNING!

SCOFF AT IT...
OH, MASTER
OF DEATH!

LIGHT!
FIERCE,
BLINDING
LIGHT--
TO ROOT OUT
EVIL!!

I MUST DO
SOMETHING TO
PUT OUT THIS
BRIGHTNESS!

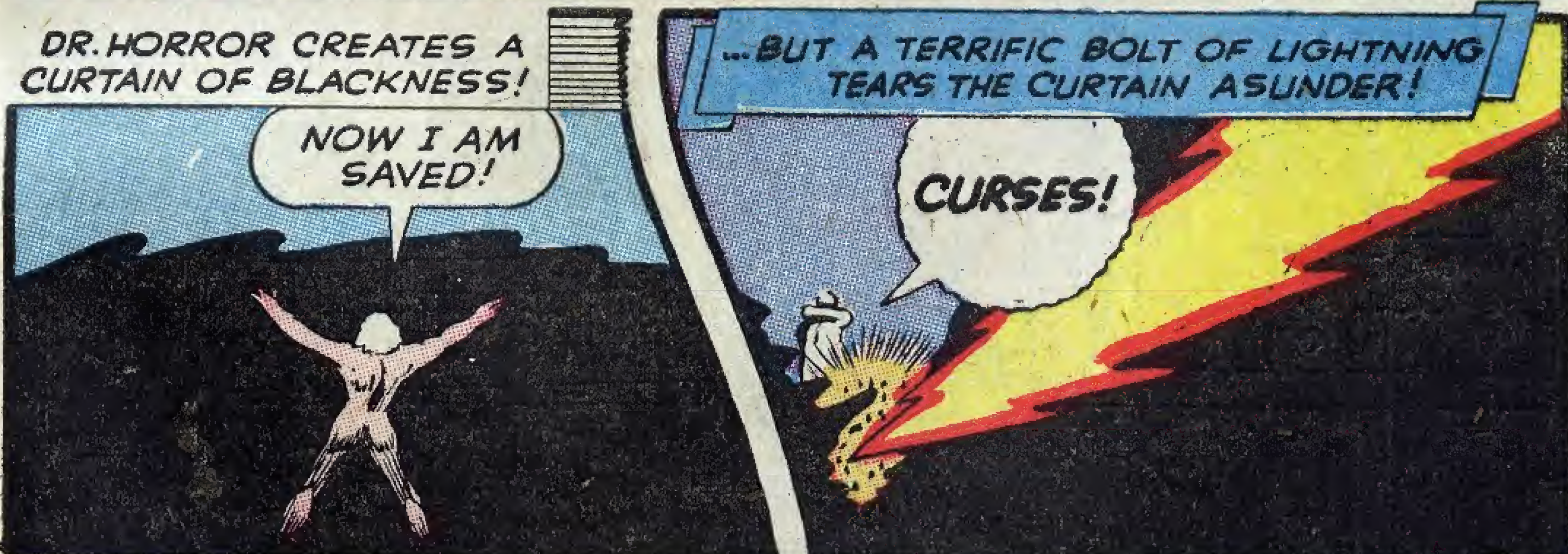


DR. HORROR CREATES A CURTAIN OF BLACKNESS!

NOW I AM
SAVED!

...BUT A TERRIFIC BOLT OF LIGHTNING TEARS THE CURTAIN ASUNDER!

CURSES!

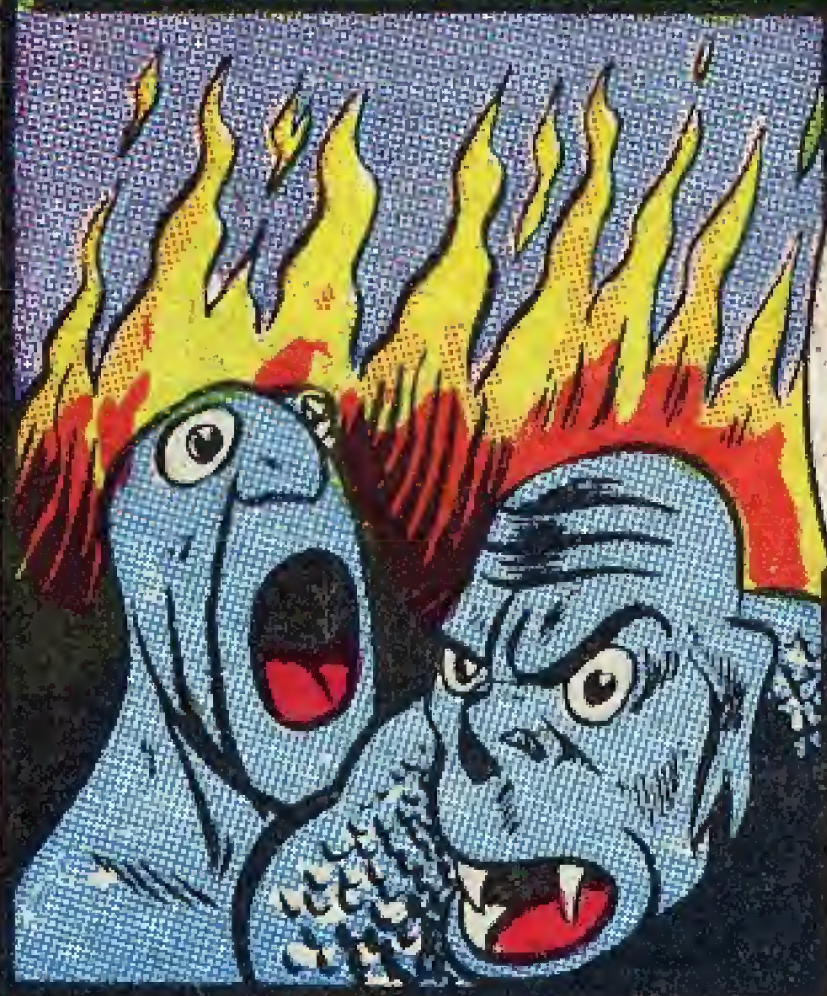


AND THEN AN EVEN GREATER BOLT OF LIGHTNING CRASHES DIRECTLY INTO THE HEAVING MASS OF CREATURES!

CRASH!

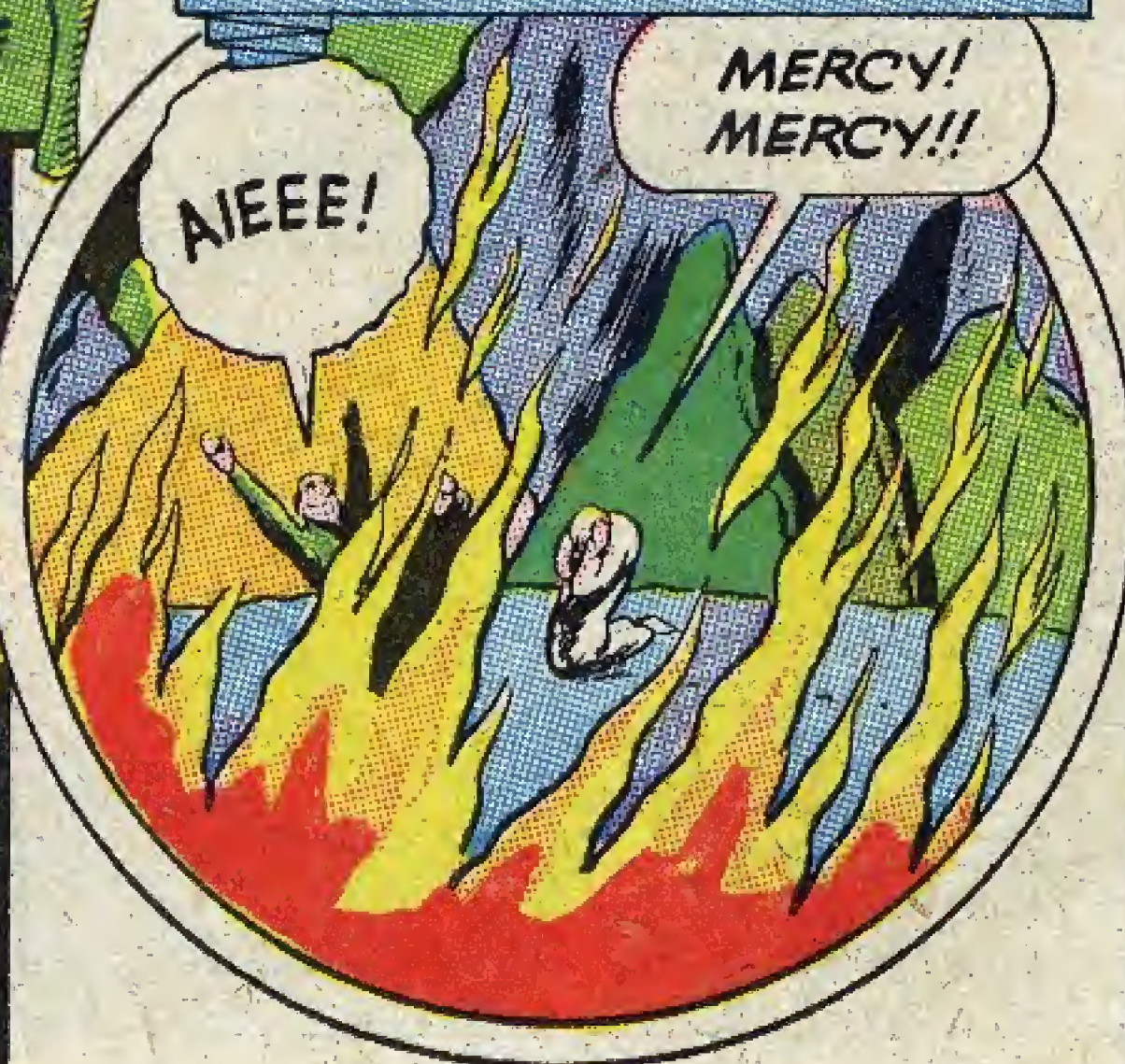
THE DESPICABLE SISTERS OF FEAR ARE ENGULFED IN THE HOLOCAUST!

AND SO THE ENTIRE GRUESOME ASSEMBLAGE IS CONSUMED BY FIRE!



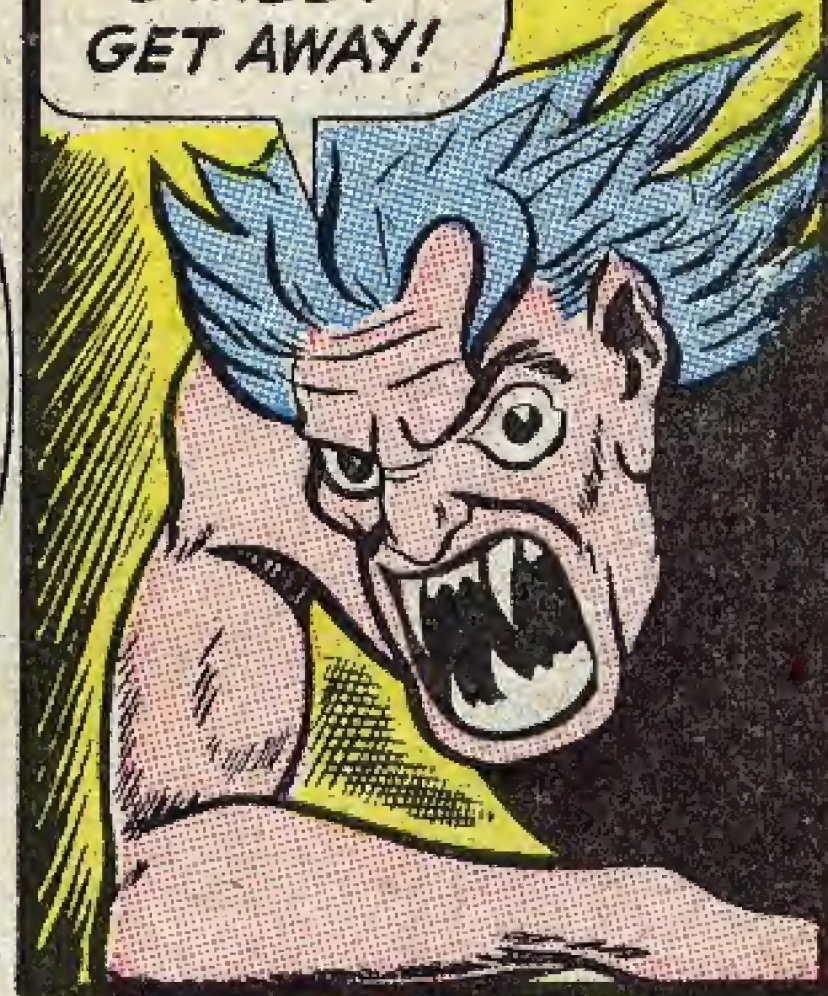
AIEEE!

MERCY!
MERCY!!

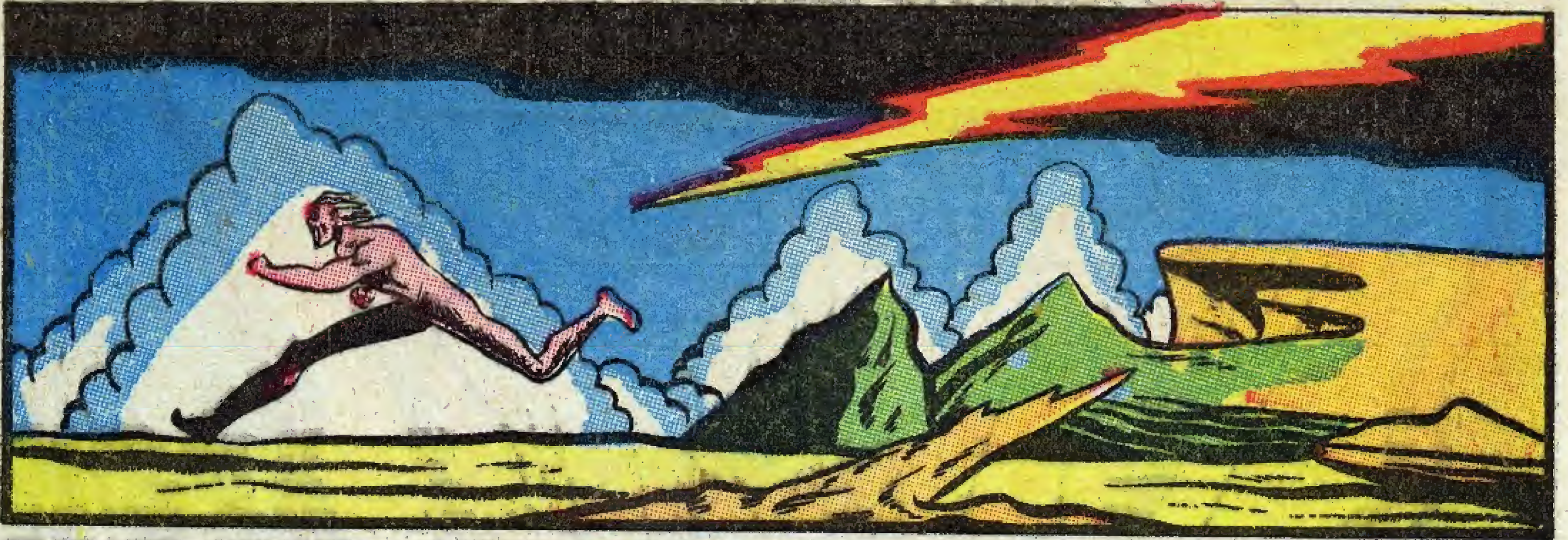


But DR. HORROR
FLEES FOR HIS
MISERABLE LIFE!

I MUST
GET AWAY!



FASTER AND FASTER SPEEDS THE CRAVEN! NOW HE KNOWS THE MEANING OF THE TERROR HE HAS STRUCK INTO THE HEARTS OF THE INNOCENTS!



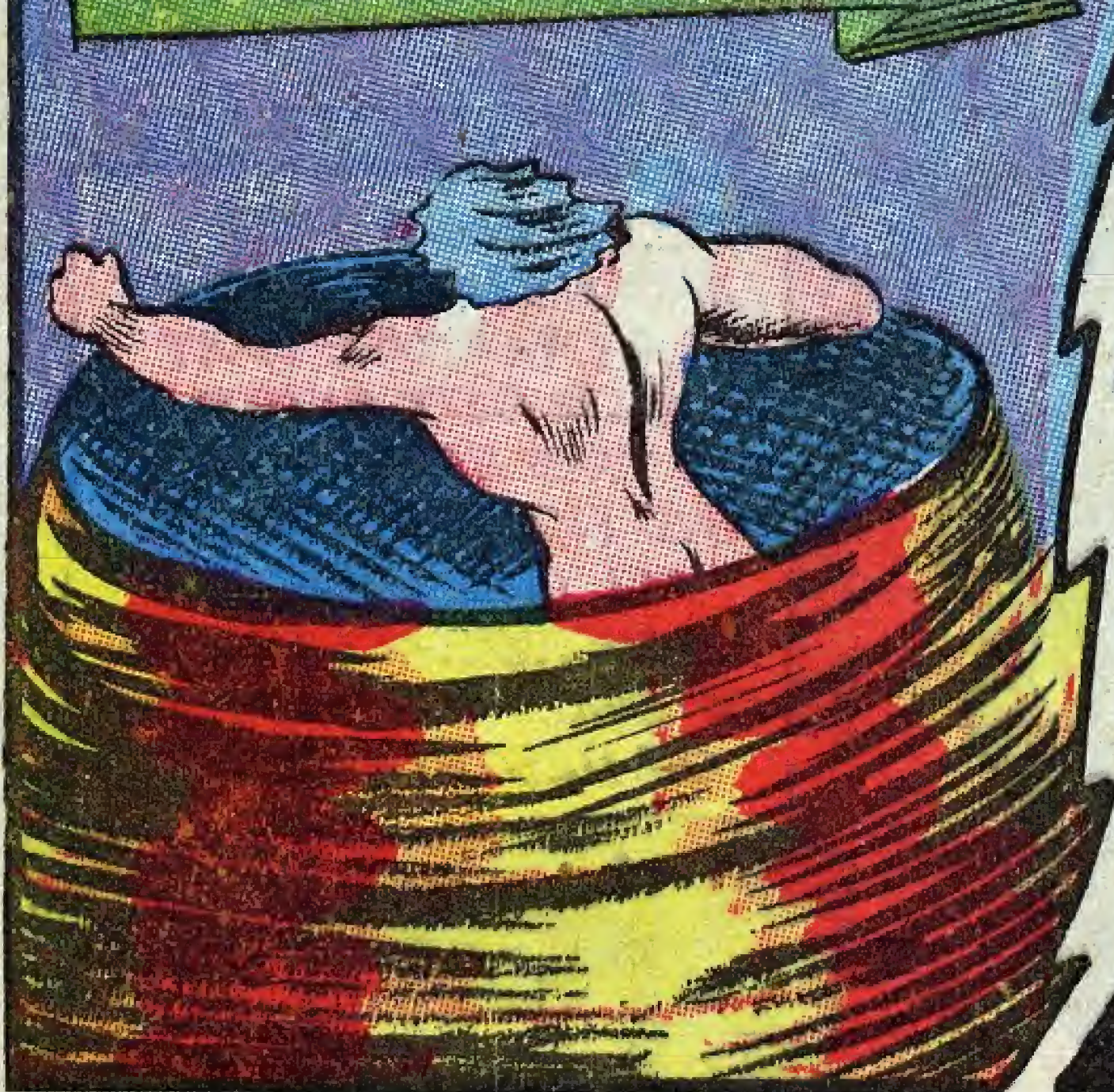
**I CAN RUN NO MORE!
EVEN MY SUPER-
HUMAN STRENGTH IS
EXHAUSTED!**



WEIRD, MELANCHOLY MOAN GROWS LOUDER AND LOUDER, UNTIL IT REACHES THE LEVEL OF A THOUSAND WAILING SIRENS--- A TWISTER!

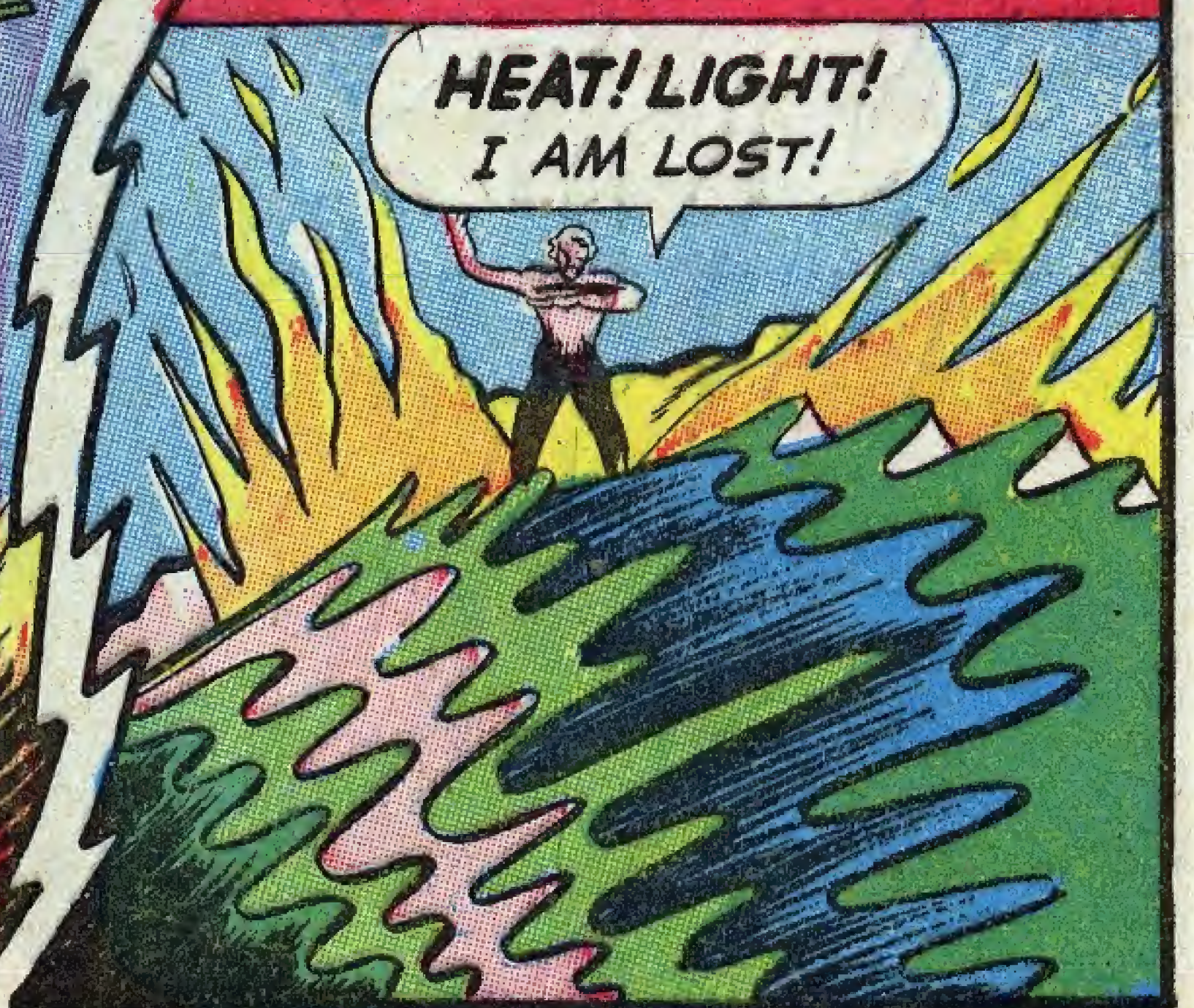


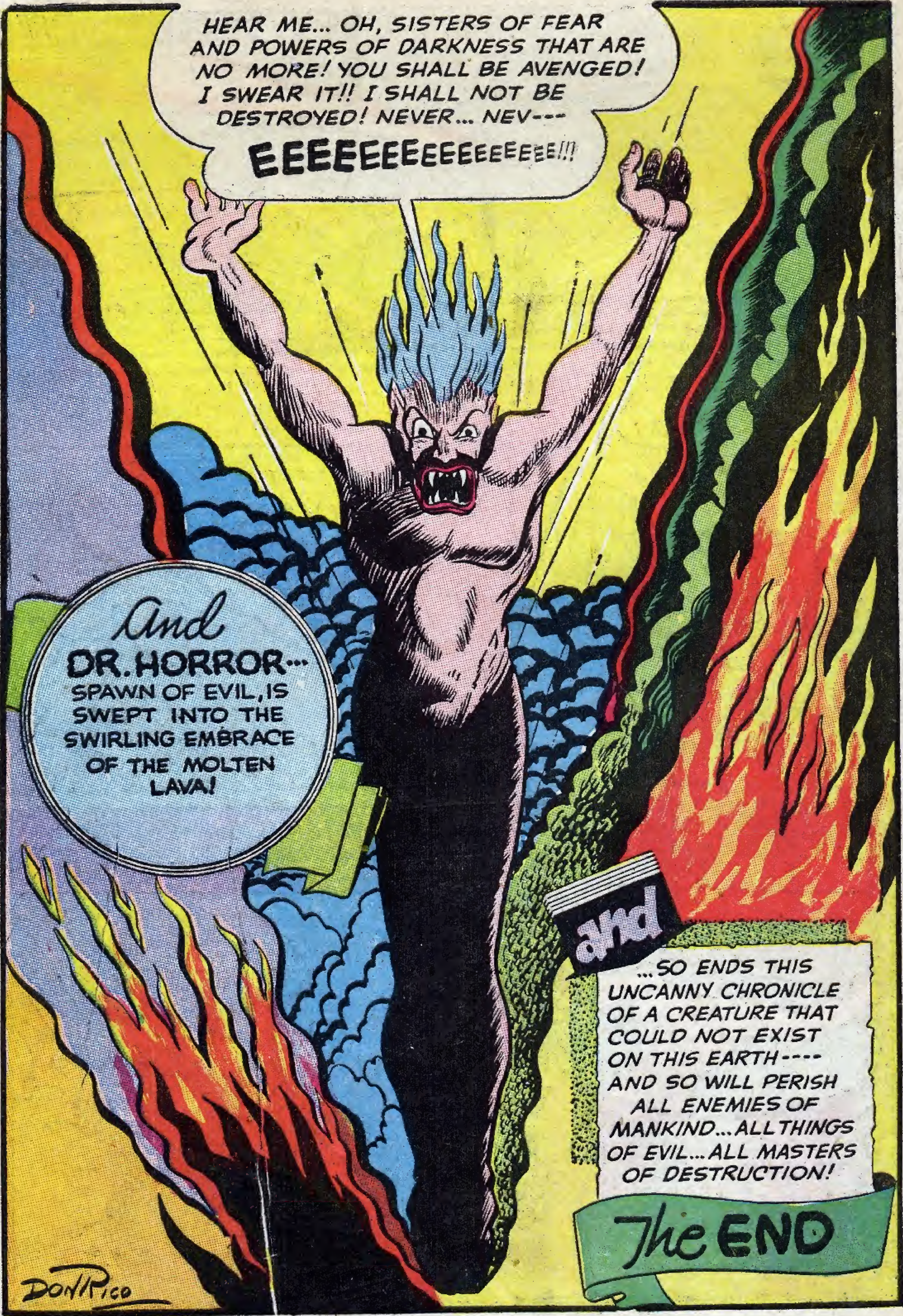
**THE WHIRLWIND FINDS THE
CRINGING ABOMINATION...
AND A GRIM STRUGGLE
TAKES PLACE!**



**BUT FINALLY THE MOUNTAIN
ITSELF TURNS INTO A BURNING
MASS OF MOLTEN LAVA!**

**HEAT! LIGHT!
I AM LOST!**





HEAR ME... OH, SISTERS OF FEAR
AND POWERS OF DARKNESS THAT ARE
NO MORE! YOU SHALL BE AVENGED!
I SWEAR IT!! I SHALL NOT BE
DESTROYED! NEVER... NEV---

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!

And
DR. HORROR...
SPAWN OF EVIL, IS
SWEEPED INTO THE
SWIRLING EMBRACE
OF THE MOLTEN
LAVA!

and
...SO ENDS THIS
UNCANNY CHRONICLE
OF A CREATURE THAT
COULD NOT EXIST
ON THIS EARTH----
AND SO WILL PERISH
ALL ENEMIES OF
MANKIND... ALL THINGS
OF EVIL... ALL MASTERS
OF DESTRUCTION!

The **END**





